

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. LVI.]

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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
Epitome of the Week, &c.	19
Leading Articles:—	
The Connaught Statue	20
The Distribution of the Indemnity	20
Japan's Trade in 1901	21
Anglophobia and Russophobia	21
H. E. Tao Mu's Resignation	22
Home Information about China	22
Coronation Honours	23
Medical Inspection of Arrivals	23
Coronation Events	23
Hongkong Legislative Council	26
Hongkong Sanitary Board	28
Dinner to Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu	31
The Health of Hongkong	30
The Volunteer Coronation Contingent	30
Important Decision in Extradition Case	38
Botanical and Afforestation Department in 1901	31
The Pilot-Licensing Question	32
H.M.S. Ocean's Shooting at Weihaiwei	33
A New Indo-China S.N. Co. Steamer	33
Mixed Court Jurisdiction at Shanghai	33
Ceal Consumption on the China Station	33
Tientsin's Foreign Rule	33
Foochow	35
Taiyuanfu	35
Northern Notes	35
Correspondence	36
Tebrau Planting Co., Ltd.	36
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.	36
Watkins, Ltd.	37
The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.	37
Review	37
Coronation Celebration Fund	38
Royal Hongkong Golf Club	38
Mosquitoes and Malaria	38
Volcanic Eruptions in Alaska	38
Hongkong and Port News	38
Commercial	40
Shipping	42

BIRTHS.

On the 29th June, at Chinkiang, the wife of J. D. DE LA TOUCHE, of a son.
On the 30th June, at Shanghai, the wife of ADALBERT S. ELLIOT, of a daughter.
On the 1st July, at No. 5, Peitaiho Lane, Shanghai, the wife of C. J. WHITE, of a daughter.
On the 1st June, at 80, Darenton Road, Stamford Hill, London, N., the wife of J. R. CRAIK, of a daughter.
On the 1st July, at 210, Queen Street, Singapore, the wife of ADRIAN D'COTTA, of a daughter.
On the 4th July, at Pao Shu Ta (Hangchow), the wife of CLEMENS PAPP, I.M. Customs, Hangchow, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 26th June, at Manila, P.I., Captain LOUIS F. GARRARD, Jr., of Georgia, U.S.A., to GRACE BELLE, eldest daughter of U.S. Consul-General O. F. WILLIAMS, of Singapore.

DEATHS.

On the 26th June, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, of cholera, MARCUS BRIAN, aged 42 years, chief officer of s.s. *Wuhu*, a native of Portrush, Co. Antrim, Ireland.
On the 1st July, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, of cholera, FRANK JOHNSTONE, aged 23 years, of the Shanghai Municipal Police Force.
On the 1st July, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, LILY, daughter of CARL and SARAH HARTZBERG, aged 6 years and 9 months.
On the 1st July, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, of consumption, ERNEST VICTOR SIOEN, manager of the Hotel des Colonies Company, Limited.
On the 1st July, at Luitenzorg, Tanglin, JOAQUIM PARSICK JOAQUIM, F.R.C.S., Barrister-at-law, aged 46 years.
On the 3rd July, at the General Hospital, Shanghai, of cancer, G. H. BLACK, Pilot, aged 49 years, formerly of Foochow.
On the 5th July, at No. 33, Quinsan Road, Shanghai, AMELIA, the wife of Rev. D. F. JONES, of Hanyang, American Bible Society.

Hongkong Weekly Press

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ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The Canadian mail of the 29th May arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of Japan*, on the 8th July (40 days); the German mail of the 10th June arrived, per H. A. L. steamer *Kiautschou*, on the 9th July (29 days); and the French mail of the 13th June arrived, per M. M. steamer *Yarra*, on the 14th July (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Our London correspondent telegraphs that it is expected that the Coronation will be held on the 9th August.

An Anglo-French Syndicate has secured a Mining Concession in Yunnan covering a period of sixty years, and comprising eighty-five mines.

Mr. Chamberlain has declined to entertain the petition of Labuan praying for a removal of the island from under the administration of the British North Borneo Company.

Prince Komatsu and his entire suite have had a farewell audience with Queen Alexandra. Throughout the Prince's visit to England it is noted that he has been conspicuously honoured.

The Acting Governor of the Philippines reports that the acceptance of United States authority in the Philippines is general and pacification complete.

Count Cassini, Russian Ambassador to the United States, has formally notified the American State Department that Russia has evacuated Manchuria, and that the province is now ready for Government by the Chinese.

President Roosevelt's amnesty proclamation to the Filipinos provides for the full pardon and amnesty of all insurrectionists unless guilty of crimes against military law, but all must swear allegiance to the United States.

Sir J. Mackay, Sheng Kung-pao and Lü Hai-huan, British and Chinese Tariff Commissioners, after having had an interview with Viceroy Liu Kung-yi at Nanking, left that port for Wuchang on the 5th instant, for an interview with Viceroy Chang Chih-tung.

The French *Chargé d'Affaires* in Tokyo, M. Dubail, has been appointed to succeed the French Minister in Peking, M. Beau, the new Governor-General to Indo-China. M. Deloncle, according to a Paris telegram, has complimented M. Doumergue for having chosen M. Beau for the post of Governor of Indo-China. M. Beau has been summoned to Paris and will proceed thither after his visit to Saigon.

The efforts of the Hon. John Hay, United States Secretary of State, made in accordance with the recent appeal of China to America to use her good offices with the Powers to secure their evacuation of Tientsin, have been successful, and the foreign Generals will forthwith receive instructions to evacuate the town.

A new Russian edict excludes all Russian Jews from Manchuria, and admits foreign Jews only when their national passports are supplemented by triple permits from the Russian Ministers for Foreign Affairs, Finance, and the Interior. The Cossack settlements along the Manchurian railway are receiving free grants of land, with exemption from taxes for twelve years.

It is proposed to submit to arbitration what sum the United States shall pay for the Friars' land in the Philippines and also as indemnity for the ecclesiastical buildings which the Americans have occupied. The Vatican is to choose two members of the arbitration court and the Philippine Government two, while the fifth is to be neutral. Governor Taft proposed as the fifth member Lord Curzon, Viceroy of India.

Our Shanghai correspondent telegraphed on the 9th inst.:—"Twelve boys at Chefoo School have died from ptomaine poisoning after eating chicken-pie. One more is seriously ill, but the crisis in his case has passed, and no further danger is apprehended. The body of one boy has been sent to Shanghai for post-mortem examination. The official enquiry is deferred until the result of this examination is known." A telegram dated Chefoo, 10th July, was next day kindly handed to us by Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., to the following effect:—"Boys are quite well. Preparatory School is free. Boys' School has cases of ptomaine poisoning. Girls' School is free." The three schools referred to all belong to the China Inland Mission, only one, the Boys' School, being affected by the poisoning. The boys referred to in the first sentence of the Chefoo telegram are those of Mr. A. H. Mancell, Secretary of Messrs. Watson & Co.

A discussion took place in the House of Commons on the 3rd inst. about the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. Sir Charles Dilke said that the alliance with Japan was hostile to Russia. Lord Charles Beresford congratulated the Government on the alliance, and said that nothing of recent years had occurred so materially good for England. Lord Cranborne, meeting the criticism that the alliance had not been concluded sooner, said: "It is not for us to seek treaties. We grant them." The *Times* says that this is an unfortunate phrase [a view which is generally shared out here] and calculated to convey a wholly erroneous view of our attitude toward our ally. Lord Cranborne stated that the Government after full consideration had abandoned hope of the total abolition of the *lekin* stations, but it was hoped that some fiscal arrangements could be made to relieve trade in China from this enormous, uncertain, and illegal burden. The London *Daily News* describes Mr. Balfour's statement in the House of Commons on Monday as an elaborate apology for Lord Cranborne's terrible *gaucherie*. The London journal believes that Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, was greatly concerned, if not incensed, at Lord Cranborne's words.

THE CONNAUGHT STATUE.

(Daily Press, 7th July.)

The ceremony performed on Saturday afternoon by His Excellency Major-General Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE, the Officer Administering the Government, of unveiling the statue of the Duke of CONNAUGHT was one of most unusual interest. Apart from other circumstances the ceremony was interesting in itself, the statue having been presented by an old and popular resident to commemorate the visit of the Duke to this Colony in April, 1890, when His Royal Highness laid the foundation-stone of the Reclamation Works then just commencing. Since that date the whole Reclamation has been made, and about nine acres recovered from the sea in the very centre of the city, on which, too, some of the finest buildings in it have been erected. The new Hongkong Club, the handsome offices of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company, those of Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, and the noble blocks known as Queen's and Prince's Buildings have all sprung into existence and long since been occupied. The Jubilee statue of Her Majesty the late Queen VICTORIA also has a prominent place in the centre of the new ground, and that of her son ARTHUR now stands on part of the ground intended to be preserved as a garden or open space in front of the proposed new Law Courts. An arrangement has been come to between the local Government and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to preserve those spaces between the Queen's and Prince's Buildings on the one side and the Law Courts and the western part of the vacant site opposite the Hongkong Club on the other side as an open square, or rather oblong space, as a lung in the midst of the city. When the buildings now in course of erection, including the Law Courts—a handsome structure in granite to be crowned with an imposing dome—are completed and the square laid out, the Reclamation, at whose inauguration the Duke of CONNAUGHT presided some twelve years ago, will present a truly noble *coup d'œil*, unsurpassed in any city in Asia. The statue, which is the work of Mr. BOEHM, is a good and faithful likeness of His Royal Highness, and must vividly recall to those who were present on the occasion of his visit here his affable and genial presence. It is a great addition to the objects of interest in the city of Victoria, with which up to the present the Colony has been rather slenderly endowed.

This brings us to a consideration of another point in connection with the unveiling ceremony to which we have above alluded. His Excellency Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE, in the course of his remarks, made the interesting announcement that two more statues, one of His Majesty King EDWARD VII, and the other of His Royal Highness the PRINCE OF WALES, have been presented to the Colony, and are to be erected on sites in the same square. These statues, both of bronze, have been presented by Sir PAUL CHATER, K.C.M.G., and Mr. J. J. BELL IRVING respectively, and form a most munificent and seasonable addition to the beautification of the city. There was a peculiar appropriateness in Sir WILLIAM GASCOIGNE forming the central figure in the ceremony on Saturday. It was surely a most felicitous fact that the Officer Administering the Government at the moment should have been intimately known to the Duke of CONNAUGHT, and we may be sure that His Royal Highness will hear with no little interest and no small

degree of pleasure that his statue in Hongkong was unveiled by an old comrade in arms, one, too, who had been with him in the famous action at Tel-el-Kebir. It was fitting and most opportune also that a soldier should unveil the statue of a Prince whose whole career has been devoted to the profession of arms, and more especially one who knows so well and accurately how to appreciate the eminent abilities and soldierly qualities of the King's brother. The speech made by His Excellency the General was singularly suitable to the occasion. Without being in the least degree studied, it hit the mark in every particular, and completely carried the hearers with it. His warm and well deserved encomiums of Mr. BELL IRVING, and the appreciation and praise bestowed on Sir PAUL CHATER's public spirit and liberality, found a general response among the numerous assembly on the ground, who vigorously applauded the references to the donors of the statues.

The community will, we are sure, gratefully recognise the public spirit and love of the tight little island which have prompted these donations; while the Royal personages whom they commemorate will doubtless appreciate the loyalty shown by the donors, and the account of the ceremony will assuredly be perused with unusual interest by the members of the Royal Family. The erection of these statues in the centre of Victoria by her faithful citizens will also impress the Chinese with the devotion and loyalty felt in this Colony for the persons of its past, present, and future rulers. The idea that animates the Western man to immortalise the features of his rulers or of great and venerated compatriots in bronze or marble, may not, perhaps, be at first fully understood by the Chinese people, but they will learn to appreciate it, and possibly to copy it by and by. The Emperor KWANG HSU is still surrounded by jealous myrmidons, and is not allowed a free expression of opinion, while his subjects are held at an unapproachable distance, and he is practically kept out of touch or sympathy with them. But the Japanese successfully shattered the walls of isolation that had grown up round the person of their sovereign, and His Majesty the Mikado is now ruling as well as reigning, whilst the Shogunate is a memory of the past. The example of the Japanese may in time—it will probably be many years—act upon China, and the freedom enjoyed by the Chinese in foreign, and especially British, colonies cannot fail to have a share in breaking down the barriers artfully maintained by the mandarin between the so-called Son of Heaven and his subjects. The loyal affection which prompts British subjects to erect such lasting personal memorials of their sovereigns in this remote dependency of the Empire is certainly an object lesson to the Chinese people, whose loyalty to their Emperor is, to say the best of it, based on a tradition, and has nothing personal or romantic connected with it. Superstition and "old custom," not sentiment or affection, constitute the somewhat precarious bond that maintains in existence the Manchu dynasty and the corrupt system that has grown up under its aegis. If the tie is to continue and to be strengthened, then the Emperor of China must emerge from his seclusion and become, like other sovereigns, a known and esteemed entity.

The Japanese Legation in Paris has denied that Japanese officers commanded the Siamese force which invaded the neutral zone. We have yet to hear that a Siamese force did invade the neutral zone.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE INDEMNITY.

(Daily Press, 5th July.)

The *North-China Daily News*, in a recent article, drew attention to the very extraordinary distribution of the indemnity payable by China, nearly one half of which is made to go to Russia and France, the nations which suffered in the Peking *emutes* the least of all, and whose economic interests in China are practically non-existent. The article very pertinently asked: What were the Ministers in Peking thinking of when they passed the account? And what are we to think of a Concert which could permit such a blot on our modern civilisation to pass without a word of comment; nay more, has made every effort in its power to conceal from the world at large the evidence of its incapacity? Apparently, England and the United States—the two nations which stand almost lowest on the list, yet whose interests are by far the largest, and who played by no means a secondary part in the suppression of the troubles—concurred in this iniquitous division, and the *Daily News* asks very properly: Would it not have been at once more economical as well as more consistent with the honour of both countries, had they refused to permit such a stain to be placed on both their honour and their commonsense? The United States did indeed at a stroke reduce their claim from nearly eight to five millions sterling—a motion which the French organ in China, *L'Echo de Chine*, characterises as *un coup de Poker*; are we to surmise that they would gladly have gone further and withdrawn from the disgrace of the whole affair had the British Minister only consented to act with his American colleague? The *North-China Daily News* seems to have suggested something further; would it not be better, even at this eleventh hour, for England, with or without the United States, to take on her own shoulders this burden for the distribution of which she is in a measure responsible, and which she had surely sufficient warning would be used against herself? As corrected, the amounts of the indemnities, passed by the body of Ministers called together for the purpose, are, omitting fractions, France £11,000,000, Russia £20,000,000, England and the United States £13,000,000; and all the rest £25,000,000. It is sufficient to place these on paper to recognise the absurdity of the demands. The English and American claims were carefully scrutinised, and insupportable claims at once struck out; even after this amounts were fined down, and in the case of those from the United States, a still further reduction of nearly three millions sterling was made. The remaining nations were not of course bound to make these voluntary sacrifices, but their representatives were certainly bound to see that before sanctioning them they should have examined the foundations of each claim; this was unfortunately not done, but the various demands were practically thrown into a hat without sifting, and the sum total taken. The curious paradox appears that the nations who drew the largest profit out of the indemnity are precisely those who have no beneficiary interest in China, and practically the whole has to come out of the nations whose interests are solid. There is then a logical basis for the suggestion that it would be a sound financial policy for the two nations to at once take on themselves the payment of the debt. Managed wisely there is no doubt that the debt would eventually

become a most valuable asset. Administered as there seems every probability of its being done, little better than financial ruin seems imminent in China; and neither England nor the United States could afford to look complacently on such an event.

JAPAN'S TRADE IN 1901

(Daily Press, 5th July.)

In considering two days ago the report of Mr. A. H. LAY on Japan's foreign commerce in 1901, we arrived at the consideration of a large decline in British imports into Japan. Many of the principal exports from Japan into the United Kingdom also showed a falling off, but the large increase in rice, camphor, and copper more than counterbalanced the loss, so that the total increase in exports amounted to £22,408. Turning to Germany we find the fact that there was not a large decrease in the imports from Germany attributable more especially to the enormous quantity of sugar—almost three times as much as in 1900—which was brought from that country in order to escape the higher duty leviable from October. Owing to the diminution in the importation of *mousseline de laine*, the French import trade declined considerably. Exports to France were in a flourishing condition. The great falling off in the quantity of raw cotton imported from America caused the United States import figures to be much less than in 1900. Kerosene oil, locomotive engines and machinery, other engines, and iron and steel all showed notable increases. With regard to the question of American v. British locomotives, we may quote the following from Mr. LAY's report:—"The Government Railway Bureau for the Main Island had specified for British locomotives only for some years past, but the last tenders, opened about the end of 1901, included one American maker, the Schenectady Locomotive Works, and four British makers. The order went to the United States, the cheapest British price for all 30 locomotives being £86,795; the amount for which the contract went is £77,442. This is the first time that the Government have placed British and American makers in competition on the same specification. The specification was just such an one as British makers had been asking for, yet they were beaten in the contest. No doubt, however, they could have supplied a better finished and higher class machine than will be furnished." American makers continue to monopolise practically all the bridge-work and bicycle trade. As might have been expected trade with China revived in 1901. Exports from Japan to China were last year larger in volume than they were in 1899, before the troubles arose. Cotton yarns and tissues, matches, European umbrellas, sea-weeds, and other marine products, and coal in particular, were marked by a considerable expansion in export as compared with the preceding year. One illustration, says Mr. LAY, may be cited out of many of the attention being devoted, industrially and commercially, both to China and Corea. A Bill has just been passed by the Diet providing for the exemption of persons proceeding to these two countries from the operation of the law for the protection of emigrants. The purpose is to encourage, or, at least, remove obstacles from the path of Japanese who wish to betake themselves to China and Corea to engage in labour. The Japanese are determined to do their best to develop their trade with Corea, and

to maintain and increase their commercial interests in the peninsula.

With regard to shipping, most of the Japanese ports, following the course of the year's trade, showed decreased imports and increased exports, but Nagasaki showed a falling off in both. As regards tonnage of ships entered, Kobe and Osaka came first, Moji second, Nagasaki third, and Yokohama fourth. 1,677 British vessels, with a tonnage of 4,110,766 tons, visited ports in Japan in 1901, an increase of 87 vessels and 289,962 tons compared with the preceding year. There is still no direct mail steamship communication between the United Kingdom and Japan, says Mr. LAY, and the German and Japanese mails, in particular the former, continue to secure the bulk of the passenger traffic. French, German, Russian, and United States shipping entered at ports in Japan all showed an increase as regards tonnage compared with 1900. The number of Japanese-owned vessels and their tonnage showed a further increase in 1901. Under the Japanese flag there were at the end of the year 969 steam vessels of 577,660 tons, and 3,565 sailing vessels of 326,618 tons, making a total of 4,534 vessels of 904,278 tons. The question of subsidies to shipping is exciting much discussion just now, which lends an additional interest to Japan's policy in this matter. In March, 1901, the grant of fresh shipping subsidies by the Japanese Government was announced. These were for the encouragement of lines running to Australia and Bombay, and also to increase the efficiency of the steamship service in the sea of Japan and along the coasts of the Hokkaido. The amounts of the subsidy are:—for the Australia line not more than £53,660 per annum; Bombay line, £18,250; Sea of Japan, £15,312; Hokkaido, £3,885 and £2,516—all for a period of five years. A guarantee is to be furnished in respect of each of the lines which are to be subsidised, amounting to about 10 per cent. of the subsidy in question.

Mr. LAY's concluding remarks emphasise chiefly the need of foreign capital in Japan, which was realised in 1901 perhaps more clearly than ever before. Particularly is the necessity felt with regard to private railway enterprise. "It is hoped," says the report, "that British and other foreign capital may now be available to assist in railway extension in Japan, and negotiations are on foot with that purpose. The point of difficulty is the question of security. Public opinion in Japan seems gradually coming round to belief in the wisdom of removing the disability on the part of aliens to own land." The mining laws with reference to foreigners do not seem sufficiently liberal to induce the investment of foreign capital, and here too it appears that Japan must do something to attract the capitalists of whom she has need. The thought in the minds of many Japanese prior to the revision of the treaties, that foreign money and enterprise were merely awaiting the opening of the country and would then invade Japan in a manner that might even be prejudicial to the national interests, is now recognised to have been an idle fancy, Mr. LAY says. The question now is how to tempt the investment of such capital on terms that appear satisfactory to the Japanese would-be borrowers themselves. Further efforts were made in 1901 both by the Japanese and by foreigners interested in the commercial and industrial development of the country to relieve the financial pressure by the introduction of funds from abroad, but it is evident from

the report that much remains to be done. It is to be hoped for the sake of our new ally that these efforts will be continued unsparingly and that success will ultimately crown the task, which, it must be admitted, is far from a light one.

ANGLOPHOBIA AND RUSSOPHOBIA.

(Daily Press, 8th July.)

A recent reviewer in a home paper remarked that any one who takes the pains to read the succession of books by English authors on the threat of Russia, the threat of Germany, the threat of the United States, and the deplorable backwardness of England, becomes hardened to "threats" after a time. The reflective reader is comforted when he opens a German book, or a Russian book, or a French book, to find that England is threatening all these nations and their interests. It begins to be obvious that there cannot really be such a state of mutual terror as might be imagined from the *ex-parte* statements of the various writers, each with his eyes fixed on some possible source of danger to his own country. But it must be obvious also that some of the "threats" to which attention is thus called are genuine enough. Events proved that the menace to British possessions in South Africa from their Boer neighbours, for instance, was by no means exaggerated; nor, in justice it must be admitted, were the Boers in the past wrongly apprehensive when they trekked North to avoid dangerous contact with the British. It would be easy to quote many other examples of standing menaces to the safety of different countries, which though they have been exaggerated by certain over-imaginative or unduly partisan writers, are quite actual. However, we only wish to refer here to the British dread of Russia and the Russian dread of England, about both of which a good deal has been written and will be written for a long time to come. It is but a month ago that St. Petersburg correspondents were writing of the disappointment expressed by all classes of Russians at the termination of the South African War, and of the gloomy anticipations of the Russian Press, shared too in official circles, which profess to be apprehensive lest the liberation of Great Britain from her South African entanglement, coupled with the access of Chauvinism which they look for as the result of her present triumph, may embolden her to accentuate more than ever her Imperialist policy, which is regarded in Russia as a continual menace to the general peace and to the stability of good relations between Great Britain and Russia.

The alarm professed by Russia, it is hardly necessary to say, is at the idea that Great Britain may try to check that expansion which Russia thinks necessary for her welfare, and not at the thought that Britain wishes to deprive her of territory already hers. On the other hand, the fear expressed by Britons of Russia is that Russia will attempt to spread, as far as possible all over the Asiatic continent. Even many who look with benevolent eyes on Russia, like Mr. HENRY NORMAN, see Russia spreading over Manchuria and Mongolia, over China proper, over Persia, and Afghanistan. There are some indeed who would have Great Britain acquiesce in such expansion, pointing to the gain to civilization—but not, we may remark, paying any attention to Blagovestchenak, Finland, or even Moscow. Others doubtless are too

prone to see danger in every move of Russian diplomacy, but there is this much to be said for them that it has been fully proved that this diplomacy requires the utmost vigilance, owing to the constant divergence between profession and practice. The latest news about Manchuria, for instance, will not readily be received as true until we get confirmation from non-Russian sources. If Count Cassini's assurance to Washington is to be accepted, then a very few days' time should bring support to the statement. Should it prove that Manchuria has actually been evacuated, no doubt writers will hasten to ascribe the move to various causes. Russia's supporters will point to the evidence of Russia's good faith, her enemies will suggest a secret compensation elsewhere or refer to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. Last week Sir CHARLES DILKE in the House of Commons maintained that the Alliance was hostile to Russia. So in a sense it must be admitted to be. But for Russia's constant aggression in the outlying provinces of China and her attempts in the direction of Korea, the Alliance, though based on the traditional sympathies and mutual interests of the two nations, as Lord CRANBORNE said, would hardly have been formulated. The sympathy in policy of Great Britain and Japan would doubtless have existed without the common danger threatened by Russia to foster it, but we cannot suppose that the position of "glorious isolation," as it was mistakenly called, would have been abandoned without pressure from outside. Hence Lord CRANBORNE's phrase about Great Britain not seeking treaties but granting them, apart from its ill-chosen language, must strike the hearer as weak. If the Alliance be beneficial to Britain (and most Far Eastern residents will agree with Lord CHARLES BERESFORD about this) then it was not our place to stand upon our dignity. The only valid reason for postponing the Anglo-Japanese agreement, if it were necessary to conclude it, was that public opinion at home was not, before the campaign in North China in 1900, educated up to it, the majority still being content with the less mannerly of the missionaries to dismiss the Japanese as "heathens." But, as the *Times* protests, our attitude toward Japan is not to be interpreted according to Lord CRANBORNE's unfortunate phrase. Community of interest has brought about the treaty and community of interest, should it last, will maintain it. The hostility to Russia implied in it is only to Russia the aggressor and the violator of pledges. The conclusion of the South African War will not lead to any outburst of provocative Russophobia. Those politicians at St. Petersburg and North Eastern Asia who expected to take advantage of the protracted struggle in Africa to establish Russia beyond the possibility of dislodgement within a short distance of Peking may lament the Peace with reason; but thereby they prove their bad faith.

The new house and opium taxes which have been recently instituted by the provincial authorities throughout the Empire to help to pay off the War Indemnity, do not seem to be very much welcomed, says the *N.C. Daily News*, especially in the northern portion of Kiangsu. According to a despatch received on the 10th ult. from Yangchow, near Chinkiang, a number of large hongts in the former city who had been called upon to pay the taxes have closed their businesses as a protest, amongst them being prominent tea-hongs, furniture-shops, tobacco and other dealers of long standing and repute in Yangchow. Several opium-dealers have also followed suit.

H.E. TAO MU'S RESIGNATION.

(Daily Press, 9th July.)

An Imperial Decree, published at Peking on the 2nd instant, has reached us by way of Shanghai, announcing that H.E. TAO MU, Viceroy of the Two Kwang provinces, has been allowed to resign his post. The Decree acknowledges the receipt of a third memorial from TAO MU, stating that in spite of the additional sick-leave granted by the Throne his maladies still continue unabated, in consequence of which he again prays to be allowed to resign his post in order that there may be no hindrance offered in the management of the duties of such a high office. The news of H.E. TAO MU's resignation will be received with the greatest regret in Hongkong, for since his arrival in Canton early in 1901 he has commended himself to Europeans by his honest attempts to administer his charge. When he was transferred from the Shen-Kan provinces to Canton, it was felt that he had a very hard task before him in succeeding the late LI HUNG-CHANG, whose stern, strong will had kept troubles away from the provinces which he governed. However, although he was a Manchu, and therefore not likely to recommend him to the Cantonese, on his arrival at Canton early in 1901 TAO MU soon showed that he was the right kind of official to fill so important a post. He started at once to cut down unnecessary expenses and to exercise supervision over his subordinates. He was an improvement on the late LI HUNG-CHANG by the honesty of his conduct, if not so successful in checking the bane of the Kwang provinces, the ever-flourishing piracy. He has worked harmoniously with the foreign representatives at Canton and with the authorities here, the complicity of the Chinese Government in the Gage Street murder being, as far as we know, the only unpleasant incident during TAO MU's viceroyalty. That his ill-health and age (he is about sixty-seven) have compelled his retirement is much to be regretted. Some anxiety will be felt as to his successor at Canton, a post which requires one of the ablest men at China's disposal. To govern the Cantonese alone requires great talent; in addition, to live on terms with the foreign element at Shameen and preserve harmonious relations with Hongkong calls for a very strong and prudent Viceroy. The Shanghai native official rumours designate as TAO MU's probable successor WEI KUANG-TAO, Viceroy of the Yun-Kwei provinces (Yunnan and Kweichau), whither he was promoted from the post of Acting Viceroy of the Min-Che provinces. Little is known of WEI except that he is a conservative, a qualification which does not recommend him in foreign eyes as ruler of the Two Kwang. An enlightened official at Canton is an absolute necessity for the welfare of China. Our senior evening contemporary has a telegram stating that TAK SOW (for this is the usual spelling of the name), who held the deputy viceroyalty between the terms of office of LI HUNG-CHANG and TAO MU, has been appointed to the full post now. Such an appointment would appear better than that of a known conservative like WEI KUANG-TAO.

The Rubattino steamer *Bornida* which together with the *Bisagno* was on the Bombay-Hongkong run for several years, has been withdrawn from this line and returned to Italy. The *Bisagno* also returns to Genoa on her homeward trip. They will be replaced by the new steamers *Isola d'Ischia* and *Isola di Copri*, both ships of about 5,000 reg. tons and considerably improved passenger accommodation.

HOME INFORMATION ABOUT CHINA.

(Daily Press, 10th July.)

It is a fairly familiar fact, at least in the Far East, that the number of writers about China is by no means limited by the amount of knowledge of the country and its affairs possessed by the literary class in general. We are accustomed to read the products of the pen of the hurrying traveller who has spent a few months in this part of the world, or perhaps even a week or two only in Hongkong and Shanghai. When therefore we take up a home review and see in the contents list an article dealing with China we do not as a rule expect much enlightenment, high though the standard of the review may be. A reader into whose hands falls the June number of the *Contemporary Review*, therefore, will not be so surprised at some of the remarks which he will find in an article therein, entitled "The Genius of China" and written by Prince HESPER UKHTOMSKI, as he might be, were he unacquainted with the readiness with which the public at home accepts self-constituted authorities on the less familiar subjects. With Prince UKHTOMSKI's main argument, which is that Russia is China's only possible saviour, we need not deal here. Prince UKHTOMSKI is a Russian and naturally does not see Chinese affairs as we see them. The Prince naturally finds the dangers which threaten China arising mainly from the English. There is more to be dreaded from the intrusion of foreigners into the interior of China than from "the ten times repeated benevolent destruction of Chinese by our arms, or even our careless government of them." We are not certain whether "our arms" in this sentence is an allusion to Blagovestchensk or not. But what the writer wishes to emphasise is that Russia's chief problem in the yellow East is to guard against the possibility of China becoming what Southern Asia has become under military instruction, "lest precious Russian blood should be spilt, and enormous sums should be spent, in the struggle with oncoming disasters which we must always look forward to and prepare for."

However, it is not to Prince UKHTOMSKI's theories, but to some of his statements to which we wish to allude. He takes Hongkong as an example of wrong government of the Chinese, and his remarks about this Colony are interesting, if not exactly instructive. Into the constituents of the native population here there enter, he says, to a notable degree wanderers and criminals, who find it advantageous for a time to escape from prosecution on their native soil, under the shadow of a liberal foreign government. It is unfortunately true that bad characters from the mainland or from neighbouring ports have a way of coming to Hongkong to stop as long as they are tolerated, but we do not know that our proportion of criminals is extraordinary, seeing how great is the freedom of ingress into the Colony. However, Prince UKHTOMSKI tells us that these criminals, where in danger of being followed up, commit some light offence and get sent to our prison for a short term, thereby escaping pursuit. The hostility between the Chinese, instigated by the Cantonese authorities, and the local whites has "more than once expressed itself in a very aggravated way in the past." True, there have been difficulties, even grave difficulties in the past, but where is there greater harmony between the white and Chinese population than there has been in Hongkong of recent years? Where

July 14, 1902.]

CHINA OVERLAND TRADE REPORT.

was there less ground for alarm during the two past years? To continue: "The Cantonese natives have never ceased to summon their fellow countrymen with threats from the 'foreign' town, sending thither incendiaries and robbers, falling on foreigners even in the harbour, artfully tunnelling beneath the Bank of India, and the like." Evidently we suffer from a decreasing Chinese population and live in a state of perpetual terror—which, however, does not show on the surface. Prince UKHTOMSKI also informs his readers that the model hotel on the island of Hongkong is kept by Chinese. Similarly interesting information is given about Singapore, where the Prince speculates whether it will be necessary to arm the Malays as a counterpoise to the Chinese. Then too we are told that there are few beggars in China (a sight of the beggars in Canton might enlighten him); that the Chinese regard Russia as a friend and neighbour, not as a predatory foe; that the English are not likely to hesitate to exploit the Chinese as they have wrested money from the Hindus; and so on. But enough has been quoted to show that the Russian writer has laid before the readers of the *Contemporary Review* a tissue of absurdities, if it be not indeed an elaborate skit.

CORONATION HONOURS.

(Daily Press, 11th July.)

Though we have not yet received the complete Coronation Honours List (which appears to have been published by King EDWARD's expressed desire, although it was previously announced that it had been postponed) we have, in the list which we published yesterday from Ceylon papers, what must be the bulk of the orders and titles awarded. Most of those interesting most especially to the Far East have already been telegraphed out here, but in addition it will be seen that Admiral Sir E. H. SEYMOUR has been appointed to the new order of merit, an honour which he shares in common with Lords ROBERTS, WOLSELEY, and KITCHENER. Mr. A. B. FREEMAN MITFORD, the well-known Japanese scholar and diplomatist, has been created a peer. Colonel O'MOORE CREAGH, V.C., has received the C.B. With regard to Dr. HO KAI and Mr. W. J. ARCHER, about the exact nature of whose reward there has been some doubt, the telegrams to Ceylon state that both have been appointed Companions of the new Imperial Service Order. Less recently connected with the Far East, Admiral KEPPEL in his ninety-third year has received the new Order of Merit, an honour which all will be glad to see the veteran sailor enjoy. The same decoration has been granted to the Rt. Hon. W. H. LECKY, the historian, Sir W. HUGGIN, the astronomer, and Mr. G. F. WATTS, the painter. Lord HOPETOUN has a marquessate, and Lord MILNER, Lord CHURCHILL, one of the Conservative Whips, and Baron COLVILLE of CULROSS, H.M. the Queen's Lord Chamberlain, have viscounties. The political and military awards are too numerous to go into here, but among the others many of general interest will be noticed. Lord MINTO, Canada's Governor-General, is accompanied in his entry among the Privy Counsellors by Lords KELVIN, LISTER, ROTHSCHILD, etc. An anticipated grant is that of a baronetcy to Sir THOMAS LEPTON. So too was it expected that Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM, the actor, would be knighted, but Mr. BEERBOHM TREE does not, as was thought probable, share the distinction. Literature is recognised in the knighthoods conferred on Dr. A. CONAN

DOYLE, the novelist who has laboured so hard to rebut the slanders on the British Army in South Africa, and Mr. F. C. BURNAND, the editor of *Punch*. Painting has two honours in addition to that gained by Mr. WATTS, the Presidents of the Royal Academy and the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours, Sir E. J. POYNTER and Mr. E. A. WATERLOW being made baronet and knight respectively. In the Law, Sir G. H. LEWIS becomes a baronet and Sir F. H. JEUNE a G.C.B. The list we have before us is a lengthy one, but it will be seen that it is not complete. The higher placed members of the Government are not recognised, in spite of the semi-official reports which have been in circulation about the honours about to be theirs. It may therefore be concluded that when the actual Coronation takes place a further list will be published.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF ARRIVALS.

(Daily Press, 12th July.)

Those who are interested in the future welfare of Hongkong, and it may be presumed that all residents in this Colony may be put in this class, will be glad to see that the Sanitary Board on Thursday voted for a medical inspection of all passengers arriving in this Colony from the China coast and neighbourhood. This step has been taken in accordance with the recommendations of Professor SIMPSON, who has just left us. Such a measure has been frequently advocated by us in the past, but, owing principally to the strenuous opposition of the Chinese in the Colony, it has not been possible to make such inspection the law. It is proposed, should the recommendation of the Sanitary Board be endorsed by the higher authorities, that all vessels arriving in Hongkong Harbour which do not carry on board medical officers shall be visited by one of the local boarding officers. Encouragement is hereby given to all vessels arriving in Hongkong to carry their own medical officers and thus prevent unnecessary delay after reaching this port. By this it is hoped that the early introduction of plague into the Colony may be effectively checked. But, unless the Chinese themselves help in the preventive measures, it can scarcely be hoped that so deadly a foe can be dealt with effectively. Fortunately it seems that part of the Chinese community realises the dangers which continue to threaten us. There are, no doubt, many objections against insisting on small steamers carrying their own doctors, under penalty of being detained on arrival. But the health of the Colony must be paramount among all considerations, and the individual hardships cannot but be lost sight of in the general welfare of the community.

Major G. R. Pearce, retired, who had served in Hongkong, was found dying in his bed at South Kensington last month. For some years deceased had suffered from insomnia, and when in Hongkong a doctor advised him to take sulphonal. On the 21st May he complained of being very tired, and went to his room. Next morning he could not be roused, and died shortly afterwards. Death was due to coma from

The *Figaro* (Paris) published last month an account of an interview with Count Matsukata. "The Japanese ex-Premier," says the *Figaro*, "declared he came to France more desirous than ever of seeing the bonds uniting the two countries drawn closer. The attachment of Japan to France was sincere. The Emperor has instructed him to inform M. Loubet in clear terms of his sentiments of friendship for France, and those sentiments were shared by the whole Japanese people."

CORONATION EVENTS.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES. UNVEILING OF THE NEW STATUE.

Though the programme of Coronation festivities arranged for in Hongkong has, in common with those of other parts of the Empire, been departed from in its entirety almost upon the receipt of the news of the illness of His Majesty King Edward, the reassuring nature of the telegrams, official and otherwise, which were subsequently received concerning His Majesty's health impelled His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government to approve of the desire of the Coronation Committee to permit certain parts of the ceremonies to be carried through as originally intended. As it transpired, this line of action was precisely that which the King had expressed the wish to have adopted, so that the decision locally arrived at was a wise and proper estimate of His Majesty's feelings in regard to this matter. Those parts of the celebrations carried out on the 5th inst. were the presentation of the loyal Addresses from the general community, the Masonic craft, and the Chinese community; and the formal unveiling of the statue of H.B.H. the Duke of Connaught. Both functions passed off most successfully, in good weather. As the presentation of the Addresses took place in Government House, the proceedings did not lend themselves to much decorative display or to a large assemblage of people; on the other hand, the ceremony of unveiling the statue, which is situated in the open space of ground near the Queen's Statue, was witnessed by a great concourse of people and had much in it of spectacular effect. Not the least important of the afternoon's events was the announcement by His Excellency General Gascoigne of two magnificent gifts to the Colony—one, a statue of the King presented by Sir C. P. Chater, K.C.M.G., and the other a statue of the Prince of Wales presented by Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving, who has lately left the Colony for home. The intimation of these handsome gifts to Hongkong by two of her leading business men was received with acclamation on all hands.

PRESENTATION OF ADDRESSES.

The ceremony of presenting the various loyal Addresses to His Excellency for transmission to the King was performed in the Ball Room at Government House at half-past four o'clock. To this function the heads of Government Departments, members of Council and the members of the Coronation Committee and their wives had been invited. The presence of so many ladies, therefore, together with the variegated nature of the uniforms worn by the official guests and the wealth of tropical greenery which decorated the chamber, served to make up an imposing spectacle. His Excellency Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., the Officer Administering the Government, was dressed in full uniform and wore his Decorations and medals on his breast. His Excellency sat at the top of the hall behind a small table on which were laid the Addresses. Those who were to take part in the presentation ceremony stood in front and the others in the rear of the chair, while the ladies were seated on chairs placed round the upper end of the room. Among those present were Lady Gascoigne, His Honour W. Meigh Goodman, Chief Justice, Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, Hon. Sir Henry Spencer Berkeley, K.B., Attorney-General; Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Hon. R. Murray Ramsay, R.N., Harbour Master; His Honour A. G. Wise, Puisne Judge; Captain Hon. H. W. Trefusis, A.D.C.; Mr. R. F. Johnston, Private Secretary; Hon. F. J. Bailey, Captain Superintendent of Police; Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.I.S.O.; Hon. C. S. Sharp, Hon. Robert Shewan, Hon. C. W. Dickson, Hon. G. W. Playfair, Hon. Wei A. Yuk, Commander Robinson, Lieut. Colonel Hughes, Rev. D. J. Hardy, Chaplain to H. M. Forces, Right Rev. Bishop Piazzoli and the Rev. Fathers of the A.C. Church; Mr. E. A. Hewitt, Hon. Secretary of the Coronation Committee; Mr. F. A. Hazland, Police Magistrate; Rev. C. H. Hickling.

Union Church; Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer; Mr. H. N. Moly, Mr. Fung Wa Chun, Mr. Ho Tung, Mr. B. C. Wilcox, Mr. D. E. Brown, Mr. T. H. Reid, Mr. E. H. Sharp, Mr. J. W. Norton Kyshe, Registrar; Mr. W. Poate, Captain Pritchard, H.K.V.C.; Mr. Ho Fook; Mr. C. McL. Messer, Acting Registrar-General; Captain Percy Scott, C.B.; Mr. A. G. Romano, Consul-General for Portugal; Mr. A. J. Raymond, Mr. E. Gompertz, Mr. P. P. J. Wodehouse, Mr. Mowbray S. Northcote, Mr. Gershom Stewart, Dr. G. M. Harston, Mr. F. Maitland, Mr. J. Leiria, and many Naval and Military officers. The Masonic deputation, dressed in full regalia, was headed by Mr. E. C. Ray, Deputy District Grand Master, and consisted of Messrs. L. Mallory, E. Ormiston, H. W. Heuermann, G. L. Tomlin, Dr. F. W. Clark, Messrs. G. Piercy, F. W. Edwards, G. J. B. Sayer, A. O'D. Gourdin, W. J. Tutchner and F. D. Goddard, District Grand Lodge; J. Bryan, B. Brotherton Harker, Zetland; R. C. Edwards, E. H. Ray, C. W. Longue, Victoria; W. H. Wickham, A. G. Ward, Perseverance; G. G. Burnett, H. W. Wolfe, United Service; J. A. Tarrant, H. Jewitt, W. M. Everall, S. John's; and P. C. Hyett, Naval and Military. The company having assembled and taken their places, His Excellency indicated that he was now ready to receive the Addresses.

His Honour W. ME GH GOODMAN stepped forward and said—Your Excellency,—Before reading and presenting to Your Excellency an Address to His Majesty the King, from the people of Hongkong, I would crave permission to make some few preliminary observations. As Your Excellency is aware, the date originally fixed for the Coronation of Their Majesties was the 26th June last. It was for that occasion that the Address was intended; and it was written, illuminated, signed by considerably more than a thousand persons, its cover of gold and velvet was designed and completed, and it was all in readiness before the sad tidings that His Majesty's illness necessitated the postponement of the Coronation, reached this Colony. In these circumstances, it was thought better, and I believe Your Excellency quite concurred in that view, that the Address should still be presented. We know the keen, personal interest taken by His Majesty in every part of the British Dominions, even in those portions the furthest removed from the mother land; and it may well be that the respectful expression of loyalty and devotion to the King and the Royal family, embodied in the Address, may be as much appreciated by His Majesty during, let us hope, his period of convalescence, as if those expressions had been received by him some weeks after the Coronation had actually taken place. There has never been a Coronation of any British Monarch since Hongkong became a Colony. The glorious reign of Her late revered Majesty, the longest known in British history, extended over such a lengthened period, that, when the mournful message of her demise was flashed to us across the seas, we could, at first, hardly realise that Victoria the Good was no more. The very keystone of the arch of the British Empire seemed to have been taken away. In such a crisis we can but faintly understand the enormous burden of responsibility that fell upon the shoulders of His present Majesty. Who could fill her place? Who but that eldest son, who for so long had stood beside her as the years increased, had helped to sustain her, had seen her courage, had watched her noble life, and her love for her people, could have worthily occupied the glorious Throne she had vacated? How valuable his life! Some thirty years ago there was a public thanksgiving at St. Paul's Cathedral for his deliverance from a terrible illness. Let us hope that, ere long, there may be another similar thanksgiving for a second deliverance, and for health and strength restored. When Her late Majesty ascended the Throne, her heritage was doubtless both great and noble; but, when we compare the British Empire of to-day with that which existed at the accession of Queen Victoria, we can realise more fully how vastly that Empire and the responsibilities of its Sovereign have increased during the interval. Colonies not born when Victoria ascended the Throne have now attained to vigorous manhood, and are joining their

prayers with ours for His Majesty's speedy recovery. King Edward VII is not only King of the vast Dominion of Canada, and of the great Commonwealth of Australia, but he is also Emperor of India. And when we look to the great Southern Continent and find, with thankfulness, that the smoke of battle has cleared away, that the angel of peace has descended, may we not trust that ere long, a loyal, united, and prosperous South Africa may form one of the most valuable of those "British Dominions beyond the Seas" which are, fitly, now included in the Royal Title? But, Your Excellency, I must not forget that there are other Addresses to be presented and I will not further detain you, but will, with your permission, now read and present the Address which has been entrusted to me, and I would ask, in the name of the general community of Hongkong, that Your Excellency would, in due course, kindly forward it to His Majesty the King.

The Address, was in the following terms:—

Hongkong, 26th June, 1902.

TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII, by the Grace of God, of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King; Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

YOUR MAJESTY,—Whilst from every part of Your Majesty's wide empire rejoicings arise on this the day of Your coronation, we, residents in the far eastern colony of Hongkong, diverse in race, nationality, creed and class, but one in devotion to Your Royal House and Person, respectfully tender our sincerest greetings.

Knowledge is lost in the dim centuries as to when the waters of old Cathay reflected the spreading sails of the first argosy from the west—the bold harbinger of our fleets of merchant steamships of to-day. The safety of the ocean highway is essential to our commerce and our intercourse with home. For the preservation of this, and of our property, and it may be of our lives, we rely upon Your Majesty's forces by sea and land, sure that their protection will not fail us as it has never failed us in the past.

The history of our colony is almost coeval with the ever memorable reign of Her late Majesty Queen Victoria. Sixty-one years ago, when the British flag was first unfurled here, Hongkong was a bare inhospitable rock, the resort of pirates and the fear of mariners. The steps of its progress during this period it is needless to recount. Under an enlightened government, dispensing an equal law, and encouraging and giving free scope to the enterprise of the people, Hongkong has become one of the principal ports in Your dominions, and is still advancing with a rapidity perhaps unsurpassed therein.

At the outset of Your Majesty's reign we rejoice to see drawing even closer than before the bond between the mother country and her dependencies; and we believe that their ever increasing importance in the empire, graciously recognised by Your addition of "the British Dominions beyond the Seas" to Your ancient title, is with Your accession beginning a new and glorious era in the history of the realm. And our gladness is the more profound in that, under Your Majesty's strong and humane administration, and by the valour of Your arms, peace has been established within Your borders, a peace which we are confident will bear a rich harvest of blessing, alike to the empire at large, and to the brave people who, no longer foes, have now become Your loyal subjects.

We ask to be permitted to extend our respectful and kindest salutations to Her Majesty Queen Alexandra, Whose many gracious qualities have endeared Her throughout the lands of Her birth and Her adoption, and command the regard of the world. And we would also include in our congratulations His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, Whose visit to our colony in that service whereof He has shewn Himself so capable an officer those of us who were then here most happily remember, and Her Royal Highness the Princess of Wales, and all the Royal Family. We contemplate with gratification the ties of domestic relationship which unite Your Majesty to so many reigning Houses; and we regard those bonds as pledges of the amity between our nations which we trust will ever be maintained.

Upon the demise of Your Royal Father, a Prince universally revered, You were called, at an age early for such responsibility, to assume a share in the regal burdens of the state. The ready self sacrifice and the wisdom with which You responded to that call have won, not only the dutiful loyalty of those who live beneath Your sceptre, but also their deep affection. And we earnestly pray that, under Divine Providence, Your Majesty and Your Royal Consort will long live in health and happiness to continue those beneficent works which it has been Your constant solicitude to promote, and to direct the destinies of the people whose glad homage is Your Own.

[Here followed signatures.]

HIS EXCELLENCY then formally accepted the Address, which was set upon the table.

This address was in the form of a book enclosed in gold-mounted covers and was a very handsome work of art, reflecting credit upon Messrs. Kelly and Walsh for its practical execution. Its size was about 18in. by 12in. The covers were in Coronation red velvet and the front was set on with massive ornamentation in 20-carat gold. In the centre were the Royal Arms; the border was open-work of characteristic Chinese design, through which ran the emblem indicating wishes for long life to the recipient. At the top of the border appeared the Chinese character for "God bless you," and at the bottom another signifying congratulations. Imperial yellow silk lined the inside of the cover, on the back of which were four gold bats (good-luck), one at each corner. The Address itself was a splendid specimen of workmanship; the general scheme of colour was blue and gold, and it was printed on art paper. Each of the pages, of which there were five in all, was surrounded by an artistic border, hand-painted by Mr. C. T. Letton, of Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, in an exceedingly pretty and effective fashion. In it appeared in succession the Tudor rose, the thistle, the shamrock, and the leek, with the initials "E" and "A" alternating between each emblem. The Address was placed in a camphor-wood box padded in yellow silk with the inscription "E.R.I." in gold on the lid. The gold mounting was the work of Wang Hing, Queen's Road.

Mr. E. C. RAY next stepped in front of the Governor and said—Your Excellency, as Deputy Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge of Hongkong and South China, I appear before you in the absence of our District Grand Master, Sir Catchick Paul Chater, accompanied by the officers of the District Grand Lodge and the Masters and Wardens of the other Lodges working under our jurisdiction, together with the Masters and Wardens of Saint John's Lodge and the Lodge Naval and Military under the Scottish constitution, to present you with a Masonic address to His Majesty King Edward VII, notwithstanding the fact that part of it refers to His Majesty's actual Coronation, and to pray you to be so good as to receive it on His Majesty's behalf and to forward it for His Majesty's gracious acceptance. Sir, we may be permitted to hope that His Majesty's Coronation will not be long delayed. It has been, we trust, only postponed by the grave illness from which under Divine Providence His Majesty appears now to be happily recovering, and which has caused a wave of universal sympathy for England's Royal Family to flow from all parts of the earth—north, south, east, and west. The spontaneous wishes of all peoples and all nations are for His Majesty's welfare, and the brethren whom I represent desire respectfully to express to His Majesty their fraternal and happiest greetings and their heartfelt wishes for His Majesty's well-being. With your Excellency's permission I will now read the address.

Mr. RAY proceeded to read the Address, which was as follows:—

Hongkong, 26th June, 1902.

TO HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD VII, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India.

YOUR MAJESTY,—Within the walls of the historic Abbey of Westminster, surrounded by England's great and sacred dead and amid the plaudits of your people, your Majesty is crowned

to-day. Distant though we are from that impressive scene, we who live in this far-off portion of your Empire, the Masons of Hongkong, reverently desire to join in the solemn yet happy wishes of the hour, and to add to those of others our own profound congratulations.

Back in the cycle of time, a thousand years and more before the Christ was born, there in the Holy City, was built the temple of Solomon the King. In Nature's earth deep were its foundations laid, and slowly rose its majestic walls, its stately columns, the gate they called the Beautiful, the exquisite semblances of flowers and fruits and palms, the wondrous roof of gold and spikes of precious metal, wrought and fashioned all by the craftsmen of the time, and tested in their places with the level, the plumb, and the square. Upwards, ever upwards, under the guiding care of our Grand Master Hiram the Architect did the sacred pile progress, until the work was done and beneath the wings of the sculptured Cherubim rested the Ark of the Covenant in the mansion of the Triune God. Thereafter, from man to man, from the monarch to the serf, from the strong to the weak, from the old to the young, down the path of time, Masonry passed through the Aons of the Ages, bearing on its banners the profession of its faith; the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Man, until jewelled with charity, a priceless gem, it reached the Masons of to-day.

So, as the Temple emerged from disorder to order, from shapeless materials to symmetry and perfect art, as the Brotherhood grew from its infancy of the past to its manhood of the present, the Monarchy of Britain has advanced through hundreds of years from the tumults and unrest of the darker ages to the system of right and law which is now Great Britain's heritage. From the Monarchs before the Conquest to the dynasty of the Normans, from the Plantagenets to the Standards of the Roses, from the Tudors and the Stuarts to the Hanoverians, it has been built stone by stone and arch by arch, until to-day, on foundations which have borne it through the stress of the centuries and the burden of everlasting time, with walls which are cemented by freedom and columns which rest on the rock of truth, England's Monarchy sits on England's throne, the symbol of justice to all who shelter beneath its flag, and the haven where, secure from storms, ride the argosies of humanity laden with all that man considers his dearest and his best.

To members of the Craft Your Majesty's Coronation is of especial interest, for we are privileged to call you one of our Brethren. In 1869 You were installed Grand Master of the Templars of the United Kingdom, and in 1873 Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England. Nor did the sympathy in Masonry of England's Royal Blood stop at your assumption of this high office, for His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught, following your footsteps, has embraced the precepts of the Order and succeeded you as Grand Master.

Although enrolled in our masonic ranks are many who, not being subjects of the British Crown, owe their lealty to other Powers, we all are fettered by fraternity's bond, and in brotherly affection and deep respect we venture to hold out to your Majesty the hand of fellowship across the seas and send you greetings from the East, joining in prayer to the Great Architect of all that He will have your welfare in His keeping until the hour, predestined by the King of Kings, when through mortality's portals you will pass to the Eternal Elohim, and hear for evermore the Voice that said "Let there be light."

[Here followed signatures.]

HIS EXCELLENCY formally accepted the Address.

This Address, which was about the same size as that from the general community, was bound in Royal purple and heavily mounted in gold. The centre-piece was the Royal Arms; in the corner-pieces the design consisted of the shamrock, thistle, and rose, intertwined with compasses and set-square and with the Chinese emblem which carries with it wishes for long life. The inside lining of the cover was electric blue. The Address was printed in blue and gold. At the top of the first page—the Address ran to four—was the Masonic emblem of the square and compasses. The border contained the four national emblems already mentioned, with the Masonic between each.

The Address which was encased in a suitable box was also the work of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai next approached the Governor's table to present the Chinese Address. He said—May it please your Excellency, I have the honour to present on behalf of the Chinese Community an humble address to His Most Gracious Majesty King Edward VII, our Sovereign Lord. The address has been prepared in joyous anticipation of His Majesty's Coronation. It is composed in Chinese and carved on wood. An English translation of it is contained in this silver casket, and we would respectfully request your Excellency to forward both to His Majesty for his gracious acceptance. The Chinese inhabitants of this Colony are ever sensible of the many and immense benefits they have received from the British Crown; they acknowledge with gratitude their heavy indebtedness to the British Government for much of their happiness, prosperity, and advancement; they cherish with profound reverence and lasting affection the memory of our late beloved Queen Victoria the Great and Good; and they look forward to the Coronation of Their Majesties the King and Queen with great and exceeding joy. All His Majesty's loyal Chinese subjects in this Far Eastern Colony have learnt with sorrow and deep sympathy the recent illness of their King, and they earnestly pray that His Majesty may, under the blessing of Heaven, be speedily restored to health. They desire most respectfully to assure His Majesty of their devotion and loyalty to his person and throne, and they humbly pray that His Majesty may have a long, happy, peaceful, and glorious reign. I crave your Excellency's permission to read the English translation of the Address.

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai went on to read the Address as follows:—

A Humble and Reverend Address presented to HIS MAJESTY KING EDWARD THE SEVENTH of the United Kingdom, of Great Britain and Ireland, by the Chinese Community of Hongkong.

On the twenty-sixth day of the month of June, in the year 1902, the ceremony of Your Majesty's Coronation will be celebrated. Throughout the circuit of the wide world, on whatever place the sun and moon shine, wherever, by land or by sea, the British Flag floats, there will not be one household that will not be filled with worship, there will be no one who will not join in singing songs of joy and praise. From far and near all will unite in wishing Your Majesty a long life in which to make your people happy and prosperous.

The pen of the readiest writer would fail to give full expression to the feelings of affection and loyalty which stir the hearts of Your Majesty's Chinese subjects in Hongkong. But, with a humble obeisance, we venture in this hymn of praise to touch upon what we feel.

Divine was the wisdom of Her Majesty the late Queen. She drew men of all nations to her by her kindness; she treated those from afar with benevolence. Her fame reached to the East and to the West. The innermost hearts of all were moved by it. Not even by the sages of antiquity were her virtues equalled.

Your Majesty has inherited her justice and Her wisdom. Eternal good will spring from this succession of virtues.

Majestic was Her late Majesty's renown. Her dominions were enlarged, and from far and near willing homage was paid to her. Under her rule the sea slept smooth as glass, the land rested undisturbed. Her armies maintained peace and kept inviolate the circle of her kingdom.

Standing at her side Your Majesty has learnt the truth of the maxim that firmness and kindness are equally necessary to ensure success.

Her late Majesty had closely at heart the development of commerce. She well knew that food is all important to the people, and that riches make a nation strong; that unless the granaries and storehouses were well filled her subjects could not be protected nor civilisation and righteousness promoted and maintained.

Your Majesty has learnt the secret of a kingdom's prosperity. By adhering to the rule, but modifying it to meet varying conditions, the prosperity will be made lasting and the renown of your Government will be widely manifested.

We, the Chinese of Hongkong, are proud of being Your Majesty's subjects. We have long been indebted to Your Royal House for protection and its fostering love has sunk deeply into our hearts. We hope to see a vigorous fruit from your benignant rule, and to receive at your hands many kindnesses. We thank Your Majesty for your fatherly care and protection, and we swear eternal loyalty. Your Majesty's loving servants and subjects pray Heaven to shower down countless blessings on Your Majesty.

May Your Majesty live for thousands of years and enjoy boundless happiness.

Here followed signatures.

The Chinese Address was in the shape of a massive carved tablet 8 feet long by 5 feet wide, the carving being very artistically executed, and illuminated in gold and variegated colours. A striking border enclosed the design, in which the Dragon played a prominent part. An English translation of the Address was printed by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh. This was done on silk and was executed in red with blue initials, the initial letters being surrounded by gold filigree work, and the whole enclosed in a green border. This Address, which was made to roll round a silver rod, was encased in a massive silver and gilt casket of ornate design, 18 inches long and 6 inches high, and standing upon four dragons' heads. The casket was supplied by Wang Hing, who deserves great credit for the excellence of the workmanship.

All the Addresses having now been presented HIS EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen, I confess that I am very much pleased that you have decided to send these Addresses forward. I think your decision was both sound and wise. Believe me in saying this. I have been influenced by no unworthy motive of personal consideration. Intensely proud as I am to-day of being the Officer Administering your Government, through whose hands these Addresses will pass, and yet, owing to the universal kindness I have met with at Hongkong, you have taught me so completely to identify myself with your best interests that were I not absolutely certain that it was right and wise and in perfect taste to send them forward now under the circumstances, no personal consideration should have induced me to advise you or even to allow you to do it. Permit me to digress for one moment and congratulate Hongkong generally on the good judgment and good taste that have guided you in this Coronation time. With no official note to guide us, Hongkong of itself elected to carry out what we have subsequently learned was practically the official programme ordered from home. Holidays which had been looked forward to by hard-working people as days of rest were allowed to continue. The little children were not forgotten, and the joyous service of thanksgiving was changed into a devout and fervent service of intercession on behalf of our King. This, practically, we have learned since, was the official programme adopted at home. And so with these Addresses. Addresses like these, so carefully prepared, so beautifully got up, so artistically designed, are not the work of a few days. They are the result of many months of careful forethought and consideration. You, gentlemen, months ago prepared these Addresses in joyful anticipation of the Coronation of our King. Owing to his sudden and distressing illness that Coronation had to be postponed; and surely, gentlemen, if His Majesty would be gratified at receiving Addresses of loyalty and devotion from his people in his hour of triumph and prosperity—surely they would be a lasting consolation to him in his hour of sickness and distress. Here is one Address prepared and forwarded by the European residents of the Colony, breathing in every line words of devotion and loyalty. Surely the King will be pleased to receive this. Here is one from the Masons of Hongkong to the King, himself of the highest order of Masons. Surely he will be glad to receive that. And, lastly, here is one from the Chinese who have elected voluntarily to live under his flag, which is the emblem of freedom and good government, of justice and equity, of right and righteousness. Surely, gentlemen, His Majesty will be as gratified to receive these Addresses in, as we hope, his day of convalescence as he would be to receive them in the triumphal hour of his Coronation. (Applause.) Hongkong is, so to speak, the

most Eastern outpost of this our glorious Empire, but though we are far distant yet we yield in loyalty to noon. Indeed, in this matter I am able to speak on your behalf better than you can for yourselves, for I have had many opportunities and I can testify to the loyalty and devotion to Crown and country which is almost a shibboleth in Hongkong. Great Britain's Sovereign has many, many subjects under his sway—subjects of various race and creed and nationality; but I have found that of all the many subjects of His Majesty King Edward the Seventh this day all over the world there will be none who will offer with more heartfelt fervour than we here in Hongkong the prayer with the two-fold signification, "God save—save our King." (Applause.)

This ended the formal proceedings, and the company afterwards dispersed. It should be mentioned that the plants and greenery with which the Ball Room was decorated were arranged by Mr. W. J. Tutcher of the Afforestation Departments. The other arrangements for the accommodation of the guests were carried out by Sergeant W. G. Gerrard, the police officer in charge of Government House.

THE UNVEILING OF THE STATUE.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue of H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught had been announced to take place about half past five o'clock, but for more than half-an-hour earlier people were congregating in the vicinity. The two large matcheds which had been erected to meet the demands of the occasion filled rapidly as the procession of privileged ticket-holders found its way inside, whilst large crowds of the general public occupied every bit of ground whence a view of the proceedings could be obtained. The crowd, as has been said, was large, and the cosmopolitan element was as pronounced as ever; but there was no disorder, and the staff of police under Mr. P. P. J. W. dehouse had nothing to do beyond turning an occasional unwitting trespasser from the immediate locality of the place where H.E. the Officer Administering the Government was to perform the unveiling ceremony. Amateur photographers, needless to say, were in evidence, and they had ample scope for the exercise of their art in the gay scene before them, where flags and bunting vied in richness of colour with the bright dresses of the ladies and the picturesque uniforms of the officers, who chatted together in groups or promenaded up and down, awaiting the arrival of His Excellency.

Naturally many curious and even impatient glances were cast in the direction of the statue, which was hidden from premature view behind a screen held in place by four poles draped in red, white and blue and surmounted by the Union Jack. In front of the principal stand was the platform where His Excellency was to perform the simple act that would reveal the statue, and running from this platform to the screen enveloping the figure of His Royal Highness was a strong cord, which, on being loosened by His Excellency, would cause the screen to fall down. This device was the invention of Mr. H. G. C. Fisher, assistant engineer in the Public Works Department, and it says much for its success that not the slightest hitch occurred when it came to the actual unveiling of the statue.

His Excellency arrived shortly after half-past five, followed by Captain Trefusis, A.D.C., and Mr. R. F. Johnston, Private Secretary. Immediately the guard of honour furnished by the Hongkong Regiment carrying the colours and accompanied by the band, stood to attention, and after acknowledging the salute and bowing to those around His Excellency and Mr. H. N. Mody, who was to hand over the statue in the name of the giver, Sir Paul Chater, took their places on the platform.

Addressing His Excellency, Mr. H. N. Mody said—Your Excellency, it is my pleasant duty, on behalf of my friend and partner, Sir Paul Chater, to respectfully request you now to take possession of and to publicly unveil this statue of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. This ceremony, which formed part of the Coronation celebrations, was unfortunately and unavoidably postponed on account of the serious illness of King Edward, and I take this opportunity of expressing my thankfulness that His

Majesty has so greatly improved in health as to relieve our immediate anxiety and enable us with lighter hearts to carry out at least this item on the programme we had to abandon. A few words of explanation of how this statue came to be erected will, I think, not be out of place. The statue was intended by Sir Paul Chater to commemorate the visit of the Duke of Connaught to this Colony in 1890, on which occasion His Royal Highness laid the foundation-stone of the reclamation works, which wrested the whole of the expanse before us from the sea. The Duke having graciously signified his acceptance of this compliment, the statue was ordered and executed, but there being at that time no suitable site ready, its erection was deferred until the reclamation was completed. The foundations of the Law Courts, in front of which it stands, having been prepared, it was considered time to clear the site and expose the statue to the public. It now only remains for me, speaking on behalf of Sir Paul Chater, to ask your Excellency to be so good as to unveil the statue. (Applause.)

His Excellency in reply said—Mr. Mody, ladies and gentlemen, I take it as a very high compliment indeed that I should have been asked to unveil the statue of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught. You have heard from Mr. Mody how that this statue is the gift of Mr.—now, I am glad to say, Sir Paul—Chater, and while I am on this subject I may say I am empowered to make public a fact which has not been published before, and that is that there are two other statues in course of being made for presentation to this Colony. (Applause.) One is the statue of the King himself and the other the statue of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. (Renewed applause.) The statue of the Prince of Wales is the gift of Mr. Bell-Irving. Mr. Bell-Irving is well known to you all here in Hongkong. He was a grand sportsman and a perfect gentleman, and though he has left the Colony, I believe, for good, yet one may say he has left his mark behind him. (Applause.) Though somewhat retiring in disposition, he possessed a common sense and a judgment such as are shared by few men. I think it is a remarkably handsome gift from a man who has terminated his position in the Colony, to leave this lasting memento of himself in this handsome gift to the Colony, and I am sure you will all so regard it. (Loud applause.) The statue of the King is the gift again—another gift—of Sir Paul Chater. (Applause.) Sir Paul Chater is perhaps the best known man in Hongkong; he has been prominent in all great public works which have made Hongkong what it is. He has made Hongkong his home, and, as he has often said to me—"What benefits Hongkong benefits me." It is men like him who make the places where they elect to dwell, and I am quite certain that you, one and all, will recognise the munificence of his second gift. (Prolonged applause.) Both of these gentlemen, with a diffidence which did them credit, refused to allow me to make public this matter until they had left the Colony, but they begged me to use the opportunity, when unveiling the statue of the Duke of Connaught—to take that opportunity to make this announcement. (Applause.) Ladies and gentlemen, it is a peculiar happiness to me that I should have been empowered to unveil the statue of the Duke of Connaught, because he is the one member of the Royal Family with whom I may honestly say I am intimately acquainted. I had the honour to serve with the Duke of Connaught when he and I were subalterns together in Canada in 1870, when he was going through the mill as an ordinary subaltern in the Rifle Brigade. Later on I had the honour of serving under him with the Brigade of Guards in the Egyptian Campaign of 1882, culminating in the Battle of Tel-el-Kebir. (Applause.) Since that time the Duke of Connaught has held high military positions both at home and abroad. Wherever he has gone he has shown himself to be a professional soldier, a man who has given up his whole time to the study of his profession; and it is not too much to say that the officers of the Army look forward with keen interest to the time when we hope to see him Commander-in-Chief. (Loud applause.) I shall have the honour now of unveiling the statue of His Royal Highness the Duke of Connaught.

Unfastening the retaining cord, His Excellency allowed the screen slowly to drop and so revealed a splendid bronze statue, life-size of His Royal Highness, attired in a uniform of the Guards. The statue is on a granite pedestal, on one side of which is the inscription:—"His Royal Highness Arthur, Duke of Connaught and Stratharn. Presented to the Colony by Sir C. P. Chater, April, 1890."

The unveiling of the statue was heralded by the playing of the National Anthem by the band of the Hongkong Regiment, the guard of honour of which gave the general salute.

His Excellency and Lady Gascoigne, who were escorted by Mr. Mody, then crossed over and inspected the statue, for which they expressed great admiration. The occupants of the stands and the other spectators also approached, and made such an examination of Sir Paul Chater's generous gift to Hongkong as the density of their numbers permitted.

On the call of Mr. Mody, three cheers and one "for luck" were given for His Excellency, who said, "I thank you very much indeed," and then led those around him in three more cheers and a "tiger" for Sir Paul Chater.

This closed the ceremony, and the assembly dispersed.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 7th inst. in the Council Chamber. Present:—

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, Major-General Sir W. GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G. (Commanding the Troops).

Hon. F. H. MAY (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Sir HENRY SPENCER BARKELEY, KNT. (Attorney-General).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Commander R. M. RUMSEY, R.N. (Harbour Master).

Hon. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. F. J. BADELEY (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, C.M.G.

Hon. WEI A YUK.

Hon. C. S. SHARP.

Hon. C. W. DICKSON.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Hon. R. SHEWAN.

Mr. R. F. JOHNSTON (Acting Clerk of Councils).

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes Nos 27, 28, 29, 30 and 31, and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Report of the Finance Committee (No. 7) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

REPORTS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report on the Government Brigade for the year 1901 and of the Botanical and Afforestation Department.

WATER SUPPLY.

The following question, given notice of by Hon. G. W. F. Playfair, appeared on the agenda:—Will the Honourable Director of Public Works inform the Council what steps, if any, are being taken to carry out the recommendation of Mr. Osbert Chadwick in his report on the water supply of Hongkong dated 18th April, 1902, especially having reference to the question of prompt action in enlarging the storage capacity, as emphasised by his following remarks:—"It is evident that the water question is pressing."—"It is one which should take precedence of all other sanitary improvements such as those of sewerage and drainage."—"It is necessary to act with promptitude."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The following is the reply, sir:—Mr. Chadwick did not limit his recommendations to increasing the storage capacity with a view to augmenting the water supply at an early date, as appears to be implied by the question. On the contrary he

pointed out that the large reservoir will doubtless take two years to construct. The steps taken, in accordance with Mr. Chadwick's recommendations, comprise the despatch of a requisition in May last for one of the large pumping engines to be laid down at Tytam Tuk and the undertaking of the surveys, borings, and sinking of trial pits required to enable a scheme to be prepared for the construction of a large reservoir.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS BILL.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Public Health and to Buildings.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded the motion.

Hon. C. S. SHARP Sir, I do not know whether I am in order or not in making any remarks at the present moment, but I have a suggestion to make to the Government about this Bill. Admittedly, the introduction of this Bill is giving great concern and anxiety to property-holders in Hongkong and also to mortgagees. The provisions of the Bill seem to require very careful consideration, and I would suggest to the Government that if possible they should give the public some idea of their views as to the time that is to be allowed to elapse before the second reading comes on, in order to allow the provisions of the Bill to be fully considered.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—Sir, in answer to the remarks of the hon. member who has just sat down, I would say that it is the intention of the Government to take the second reading of this Bill on this day month. I would point out, sir, that the Bill, while it is a long Bill, contains really not a great deal of new matter, although that matter is important. It will be found that in the part relating to public health, there are only 11 sections containing changes of any importance, and only one of these sections, No. 42, is likely to be at all contentious in its nature. In the part relating to buildings, there are only 33 sections containing important changes. Of these, 16 were contained in the Buildings Bill which was read a first time on 11th March last and was made the subject of criticism by some of the local architects; and in these 16 sections a number of the suggestions by local architects have been embodied. There remain, therefore, only 17 sections which are new. Of these, 8 relate to ventilation, cementing of skirting of floors of buildings, rise of staircases, provision of latrines and fireplaces. These 8 sections cannot be called of a contentious nature. There remain 9 sections which are likely to be contentious. One relates to the space 1 ft between a house and the hill near which it is built, 2 to cubicles, 4 relate to the provision of open spaces around buildings, 1 relates to the height of buildings, and 1 limits the depth of living rooms in certain buildings. So that this long Bill of 476 sections really can be boiled down to 10 very important sections. Hon. members and the public generally have had this Bill in their hands for now nearly one month and the Government think therefore that if another month is given it will be ample time for anybody to make up his mind whether he will support or whether he will oppose these 10 really important sections. I would also point out, sir, that what the Government desire is not to rush the Bill through but to arrive as quickly as possible at that stage when the Bill can be thoroughly discussed and threshed out. That stage, sir, is the Committee stage, and I trust that hon. members will be satisfied with the statement I have made and will be content to read this Bill a second time on this day month.

The motion was agreed to unanimously and the Bill read a first time.

NATURALISATION ORDINANCES.

The following Bills were submitted by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL and read a first time; and, after suspension of the Standing Orders, a second and third time, and passed:—

A Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalisation of Choy Chung Ni, alias Choy Chung, alias Choy Mun Ku, alias Choy Kwong Yung; a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalisation of Choy Ye, alias Choy Man Loi, alias Choy Siu Kwai; a Bill entitled An Ordinance for the Naturalisation of Choy Kwai Ng, alias Choy Shing, alias Choy Man Chow, alias Choy Kwong Tak.

NEW TERRITORIES LAND COURT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to further amend the New Territories Land Court Ordinance, 1900 (No 18 of 1900). He said—This Bill, as the title implies, is to amend the existing Ordinance in certain respects. Section 2 allows a claimant to have a right of appeal in cases where his claim has been split up into various sections, each under the requisite amount although the original claim may have been for that amount. Section 3 proposes to amend Section 19 of the Ordinance now in force by extending to persons liable to pay a perpetual rent charge in money the opportunity of redemption allowed to persons liable to a similar rent charge in grain by section 19. Section 4 provides for authenticated maps and plans being received as *prima facie* evidence; this clause having been taken from the Straits Settlements Ordinance, No. 3 of 1895. The Bill is a short one and very simple and its scope is very clear. The principle no doubt hon. members will admit. It is a right thing to allow an appeal in such cases as the amendment provides, and also with regard to the extension of the opportunity of redemption to persons liable to pay perpetual rent in money. I think the principle of the Bill is without objection.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill and considered it clause by clause.

On resuming, the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

DANGEROUS GOODS.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the second reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Dangerous Goods. He said—The objects and reasons of the Bill are to include aqua fortis and vitriol as well as phosphorus within the provisions of the Ordinance.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The Council then went into Committee on the Bill and considered it clause by clause.

On resuming, the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY.

THE CHARGES OF THE YEAR 1901.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Sir, in moving the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of five hundred and fifteen thousand two hundred and twenty-five dollars and seven cents, to defray the charges of the year 1901, I may mention that it is the usual custom to refer the Bill to the Finance Committee for the whole matter to be fully discussed and threshed out. I therefore beg to move that the Bill be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE PAWN-BROKERS' ORDINANCE

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved that the Council go into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Pawn-brokers' Ordinance (No. 3 of 1860).

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded, and the motion was carried.

In Committee,

Hon. R. SHEWAN said May I enquire why blankets and shoes should be excepted from the limitations of the Bill?

The COLONIAL TREASURER—Old custom.

On the Council resuming, there having been only one small amendment in Committee, the Bill was read a third time and passed, on the motion of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, seconded by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

The Council hereafter adjourned until Thursday, the 4th proximo.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held immediately after the Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.) presiding.

NURSES' EXPENSES.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$705 to cover the cost of 3 months' rent for

a room at "Cragieburn" (\$630) and of tram tickets (\$75), for the use of the Nursing Sisters of the Government Civil Hospital.

The CHAIRMAN—This privilege has been accorded to the nurses of the Government Civil Hospital for the last two years and it is proposed to accord them the same privilege this year for the months of July, August, and September.

The vote was agreed to.

GRANT TO INTERPRETER.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$90, being grant of a teacher's allowance to Mr. N. G. Nolan, Interpreter to the Magistracy, for studying the Fukien dialect, for 9 months at the rate of \$10 per mensem.

The CHAIRMAN—Mr. Nolan has signified his intention of studying this new dialect, and in accordance with the regulations this allowance has been granted to him. If he does not pass he will have to refund the allowance.

The vote was carried.

PUBLIC WORKS EXTRAORDINARY.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$22,500 to meet the cost to be incurred for the carrying out of the undermentioned works during the current year:—

Public Works Extraordinary.	
(1) City Waterworks Extension, Tytam Tuk Scheme, ...	\$20,000.00
Preliminary and Temporary Works, ...	
(2) City Waterworks—Provision of Public Fountains, ...	2,500.00

Total, \$22,500.00

The CHAIRMAN—The first item is to cover the cost this year of the preliminary works recommended by Mr. Chadwick; the second item is to provide for the distribution of water in the streets, also in accordance with that gentleman's recommendations.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Is that all that is to be done this year?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—That will be all, sir.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—Does it include the temporary reservoir which Mr. Chadwick recommended?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—There will be something done towards that during the present year, I hope, but it will be a comparatively small work. It is merely a temporary expedient to enable water to be passed to the pumping engines when these are erected. The pumping engines will probably not be erected till eighteen months or so from now.

The Hon. R. SHEWAN was proceeding to interrogate the Director of Public Works as to whether anything had been done to extend the waterworks, when

The CHAIRMAN said—In these matters a considerable amount of preliminary work has to be done—surveys taken from sea level to 250 feet above Ordnance datum; we cannot start without proper data to go upon, and it takes a considerable time.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Would it not be possible by increasing the staff and spending more money to do more work?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—Steps have been taken, sir, to increase the supply of water. A catchwater has been constructed along the south side of Mount Cameron, which will form a very considerable auxiliary to the water supply, and also will the by-wash reservoir under construction at Tytam. Therefore I hope that with ordinary good fortune in the matter of rainfall we will not again suffer the experiences accompanying the severe droughts of recent years.

Hon. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR—It is very satisfactory to hear that statement.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Would it not be possible to do more by spending more money?

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—The question is to provide for a supply by pumping. To do that we must have pumping engines and these pumping engines and the necessary mains cannot possibly be available until next dry season, so that it would be useless to attempt to provide anything extensive in the way of a reservoir if we have not the means of pumping up the water. Then as to the gravitation supply—an ordinary work of that nature requires a period of 18 months or two years to

carry it so that it would be of no use to attempt to do anything of that kind with a view to increasing the supply during the forthcoming dry season.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Does the Hon. Director of Public Works assure us that he can do nothing more to extend the supply during the next dry season than spend \$20,000? Would it not be possible to store a great deal of the water that is presently running to waste in the Colony? There must be many ways of accomplishing that.

The CHAIRMAN—We have had one of the best sanitary engineers out here and he has recommended us to adopt a certain course and we are adopting his recommendations.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—If the Hon. Director of Public Works will assure us that he can do nothing more, of course we will have to be satisfied.

The HARBOUR MASTER—I hope, sir, that because we passed through an exceptionally dry season this year, Hongkong is not going into hysterics over the water supply.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—We may hope for good fortune as much as we like.

The HARBOUR MASTER—But I hope we will keep out of hysterics.

The CHAIRMAN—You cannot do anything until you get the pumping engine. In the meantime everything is being done that can be done.

The vote was agreed to.

TENNIS-COURT AT CANTON.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$166.84 to defray one-third share of \$500.50, being cost of the construction of a tennis-court for the use of the Cadets in the British Yamen inside the city of Canton.

The CHAIRMAN—The cost of this tennis-court was recommended to be shared by the Governments of Hongkong, the Strait Settlements, and the Federated Malay States for the recreation of their Cadets at Canton.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL—It is necessary that these young men should have innocent healthful recreation of this nature.

The vote was agreed to.

QUARTERS ALLOWANCE.

The Officer Administering the Government recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$295.48, being grant of an allowance for quarters and fuel and light to Inspector Hudson, the Inspector of Brothels, during the current year.

Abstract.

For quarters from 20th May to 31st December, 1902, inclusive, at \$30 per mensem ... \$221.61
Light and fuel for the same period at \$10 per mensem ... 73.87

Total ... \$295.48

The CHAIRMAN—Provisions were not made for these quarters, fuel and light in the estimates for the present year and this vote is thereby necessitated.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—"The Inspector of Brothels" is not quite the proper title. He is Inspector under the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance. The Government have no cognisance of brothels.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—There are some in the Colony, I think.

The vote was agreed to.

SUPPLEMENTARY VOTE.

The Committee then proceeded to the consideration in detail of the items contained in the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorise the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of Five hundred and fifteen thousand two hundred and twenty-five Dollars and seven Cents, to defray the Charges of the Year 1901, which was as follows:—

Whereas it has become necessary to make further provision for the public service of the Colony for the year 1901, in addition to the charge upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony for the service of the said year already provided for: Be it enacted by the Governor of Hongkong, with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council thereof, as follows:

A sum of Five hundred and fifteen thousand two hundred and twenty-five Dollars and seven Cents is hereby charged upon the revenue and other funds of the Colony for the service of

the year 1901, the said sum so charged being expended as hereinafter specified; that is to say—	
Charge on Account of Public Debt	\$8,543.84
Pensions ...	14,073.55
Governor and Legislature ...	886.99
Colonial Secretary's Department ...	5,354.40
Audit Department ...	2,706.33
Treasury ...	7,939.98
Post Office ...	4,205.51
Harbour Master's Department ...	14,723.63
Legal Departments ...	11,561.66
Medical Departments ...	10,297.71
Magistracy ...	4,254.18
Transport ...	11,776.93
Miscellaneous Services ...	253,035.33
Public Works Recurrent ...	68,035.76

Ordinary Expenditure ... \$417,395.80
Extraordinary Public Works ... 97,829.27

Total Supplementary Votes ... \$515,225.07
When the item entitled "Miscellaneous Services" came on for approval,

Hon. R. SHEWAN said—Sir, I protest against this way of stating this item. It seems to me that it is perfectly ridiculous to put \$253,000 under miscellaneous services out of a total vote of \$417,000. If you are giving this to the public for their information, I submit it is no information at all. If I remember rightly, speaking from memory, the principal item in this account was plague and why on earth we should not let the public know that the plague cost them so much and the other items so much I do not know. If it is intended that the public should not know the amount of money that has been spent, then I think this is the best way. But if it is intended to give the public information I contend that you are not giving them information when you put more than half of the whole amount of the vote under miscellaneous services.

The CHAIRMAN—You see, not having voted a plague vote in 1901 the sum had to be charged to the most appropriate vote, which was miscellaneous services. Next year—as this plague expenditure is annually recurrent—you will have a special plague vote opened and will not have it under miscellaneous services any more; but in this particular case, it was impossible to charge the expenditure under any other head.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Surely it would have been a very simple matter to put in an explanatory note stating that the plague cost so much and the other items so much. It gives no information to the public as it is.

The COLONIAL TREASURER (holding up a copy of the accounts)—This book contains all the details of the expenditure.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—But the public do not get that, and they cannot get the information in the *Government Gazette*.

The COLONIAL TREASURER—This is laid on the table.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—But it is not printed in the *Gazette*. This (referring to the list as it appears above) is printed in the *Gazette* and gives no information in the least.

The HARBOUR MASTER—It is an Ordinance, and is printed as such.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—It is no information for the public. I am asking if the *Gazette* is intended for the information of the public.

The HARBOUR MASTER—This is an Ordinance, not information for the public.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—Excuse me, I am addressing the chair. I do not refer to the Ordinance. I refer to the *Gazette*, and I am asking the Chairman whether the *Gazette* is intended for the information of the public. Hon. members who interrupt should speak to the point. If the hon. member is going into hysterics, I will retire. The hon. member either goes into hysterics or says you are out of order; that seems to be his mode of procedure; he objects to being interrupted himself when he addresses the chair.

The HARBOUR MASTER—I apologise if I interrupted. I was not aware of it.

The CHAIRMAN—I think I have explained the reason why this particular vote is so very large—in the following year this expenditure will be charged to a special head.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—I quite understand that, and thank you, sir, for attempting to explain the matter to me, but I think you have missed the point. At any rate, you are certainly

more courteous than some other Official Members. My point was to have this issued in such a form that the public can understand it—not merely to say, "Miscellaneous Services, \$253,000."

The CHAIRMAN—As to that, if any member of the public wants to know anything he can obtain the information. It is all laid on the table of the Council.

Hon. R. SHEWAN—The public cannot come up to the table and read all that is laid there.

The CHAIRMAN closed the discussion by taking the opinion of the Committee on the vote, which was carried by an easy majority.

All the items were passed and the vote agreed to without further discussion.

This was all the public business.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 10th inst. in the Board Room. Present:—Dr. J. M. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer (President); Hon. W. Chatham, Director of Public Works; Lieut.-Colonel Hughes, R.A.M.C.; Mr. C. McL. Messer, Acting Registrar-General; Mr. E. Osborne, Mr. Fung Wa Chün, Mr. Lau Chupak, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

PLAGUE PREVENTION—INSPECTION OF VESSELS.

Further correspondence was submitted relative to Professor Simpson's memoranda on plague prevention.

The Secretary in remitting the memoranda to the Colonial Secretary stated that the Board had resolved to inform the Government that a more thorough inspection of the shipping would be ensured by the adoption of Professor Simpson's recommendation that three or four boarding officers be appointed to board all ships and junks coming from the Chinese coast, the West River and neighbourhood (not including the waters of the Colony), and that unless a medical officer is carried, every such vessel should be visited by one of the Port health officers before a pratique is granted, if the boarding officer finds that there has been any sickness whatever or any death during the voyage; and further that the Canton and Macao passenger-steamers should be encouraged to carry properly qualified native doctors during the first six months of each year who would be required to report any case of sickness that may occur on board during the voyage and to give facilities for the removal of such patient to hospital, thus avoiding detention of the vessel for the visit of the boarding officer and the medical examination of the passengers.

The Colonial Secretary wrote:—"By the Canton and Macao passenger steamers does the Board mean the vessels of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. that run to Canton and the various launches that run to Macao as well?"

The Principal Civil Medical Officer minuted:—"I understood that this was to apply only to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.'s vessels. Will members please state if this is so?"

Colonel Hughes minuted:—"I understood the recommendation was to apply to all steamers and other craft trading between Hongkong, Canton, Macao, etc."

Mr. E. Osborne minuted:—"To all vessels alike. It would be most unfair to apply the regulations to the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. only."

The Medical Officer of Health minuted:—"The enquiry refers to the 'encouragement' as to the carrying of Chinese qualified doctors. This will only be done by the large river steamers, so that there is no question of unfairness—of course any steamer that carries a doc or would be exempt from detention, but the small ones would sooner wait than pay for a doctor, I should imagine."

The PRESIDENT—The question is whether this is to apply to all steamers coming from Canton or only to the vessels of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co. In the minute of the Board it is stated that vessels should be encouraged to carry qualified medical doctors. I think it is quite impracticable for the smaller steamers to carry doctors.

Mr. OSBORNE—They could be supervised.

The PRESIDENT—Yes, but I think that the

Board meant this to apply only to cargo vessels. Of course the steamers not carrying doctors will be examined when they arrive in the port by the port officers.

Mr. OSBORNE—The recommendation, as I understand it, is that the passenger-traffic from Canton should be all supervised—every vessel, in fact, coming from Canton. Those vessels which elect to carry their own doctors will not be examined. That seems to me to be the sum and substance of the recommendation. If the small steamers choose to carry doctors, I should allow them to do so and put them on the same terms as the bigger steamers.

Mr. LAU CHUPAK—Will the small launches running to Macao have to carry doctors?

Mr. OSBORNE—No, but they will have to undergo detention and inspection when they arrive. The intention of the Board was to encourage the carrying of doctors. I do not think it was the intention to make any particular steamers carry doctors; the encouragement would be that they would not suffer detention when they arrived, if they carried a doctor.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Is it not the case that we found no cases by inspection of steamers on arrival? We had inspection but never found any cases.

Mr. OSBORNE—It was not thorough.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—I think it was thorough.

The PRESIDENT—In 1895 cases were discovered on the Macao steamers.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Yes, one or two cases. I do not see why owners of steamers should be put to this extra expense of carrying doctors. I do not think we should derive much good from them.

Mr. OSBORNE—It is one of Professor Simpson's recommendations, and it is not our place to haggle about the recommendations but to carry them out. I move that a reply be sent to the Government to the effect that every vessel arriving from Canton and Macao should be thoroughly examined, excepting those that choose to carry a medical officer.

The PRESIDENT—That is when these places are infected with plague?

Mr. OSBORNE—Certainly.

Colonel HUGHES seconded.

The PRESIDENT—Ships that carry doctors will simply go to the quarantine anchorage and hoist a flag, and will not be detained any length of time.

The motion was carried by 6 votes to 1. Mr. Fung Wa Chun voting against.

CONTRAVENTION OF BYE-LAWS.

The PRESIDENT, in the absence of Dr. Clark, moved the following motion—"That the Board depute Inspector Frank Allen to institute summary proceedings before a Magistrate against any person contravening any of the Bye-laws made under Section 13 of the Public Health Ordinance No. 13 of 1901, when so instructed by the Medical Officer to which the following minute was appended:—Inspector Allen, having been promoted to the first class, has been placed in charge of the limewashing of tenement houses, and the above resolution is required under Section 27 (2) of the Public Health Ordinance to enable him to deal with breaches of the Bye-laws governing 'Domestic Cleanliness and Ventilation.'"

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS seconded, and the motion was carried.

SEWER GRATINGS.

Further correspondence was laid on the table relative to the removal of the iron nettings over the sewers and storm-water gratings.

The Secretary had informed the Government that the Board had decided to recommend that the wire-netting be not removed until gratings or other contrivance with small interspaces be substituted for the present gratings.

The Director of Public Works wrote to the Colonial Secretary as follows:—"I hope it is realised that the retention of the grids may lead to very serious consequences. With the streets on so steep a slope as they are to the south of Queen's Road, the water rushes down, during heavy rainstorms, with great force. Being unable to escape by the gratings provided for the purpose, on account of the grids, the volume is sufficient to cause serious damage. If through any cause one of these streams were to impinge on the wall of a house,

it is quite possible, in my opinion, that the house might be demolished, provided the rains'orms were of sufficient duration. I observed the effects of the recent rains on Austin Road, Kowloon, where the water as it accumulated washed out the surfacing to an increasing width alongside the gutter-channel and finally discharged along the top of Macdonnell Road into the Harbour. Apart from the expense of restoring the roads, there is every chance of some serious accident being caused by the washing out of holes in them during heavy storms. I submit that I cannot be held responsible for the condition of the roads or for any such accident as may occur, if the grids are to be retained."

The Colonial Secretary asked:—"Can narrower gratings be submitted? If so, at what estimate of cost?"

The Director of Public Works replied in the following letter:—"The narrower gratings form part of my improved gully, which it is proposed to construct in lieu of the existing ones. The gratings would not be suitable, however, for the present gullies, as the arrangement is very different, nor would it be worth while to go to the expense of substituting new gratings, as the reconstruction will shortly be taken in hand. As many of the gratings are kept partly open, the idea that the grids prevent the egress of rats is absurd. The grids should be removed until the end of the rainy season at least, when they can be refixed if desired."

The Colonial Secretary, in further reply, wrote:—"I understand that the scavenger coolies have to leave the gratings partly open or the rain-water cannot escape, and thereby renders the wire-netting useless."

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I hope the Board will see its way to rescind its former decision in connection with this matter. It is perfectly absurd that we should put on grids to keep rats from getting out of the gratings or going into the gratings, and at the same time to have these gratings open at the side in such a way that any quantity of rats can get in and out freely. There is no question about it that the retention of these grids on the gratings is a source of real danger in the case of heavy rainstorms. It must cause great danger—it does cause great danger. The roads, every one must have seen, have been scoured out where the water pours down channels from the hills, and through being checked it may cause much greater danger in the way of bringing down retaining walls, and may even lead to loss of life. I therefore hope the Board will see its way to rescind its decision during the rainy season any way.

Mr. OSBORNE—I agree with the Hon. Director of Public Works that it is ridiculous to have these grids and at the same time not to use them. At the—

The PRESIDENT—Do you second the motion?

Mr. OSBORNE—No.

The PRESIDENT—It has not been seconded yet, then.

Mr. MESSER—I second it.

Mr. OSBORNE (continuing)—At the same time the obvious reply to that, sir, is not to remove the grids, but to make use of them and not to take these iron gratings out of their proper position. Whether these grids have been of any use it is of course very difficult to say, but I have heard—I cannot vouch for the truth of the report—but I have heard from more than one source that during the first two rainstorms of this year a number of dead rats were washed into the harbour, and I believe it was so. Furthermore, this is the first year since 1894 that the Colony has been attacked by plague and plague kept under. Furthermore, we have it on the very best authority that rats are the greatest disseminators of plague, and therefore, in every way we can, we ought to kill or keep down rats; we should do it even at the risk of damage in other directions. As regards the danger to roads, that is not the concern of the Sanitary Board; the Sanitary Board should stick to its decision. His Excellency the Governor was in favour of it, and we should not stultify ourselves by recommending the removal of these grids now. If the heavy rains choke these gratings, demolish houses, and tear down the walls, that is not the business of the Sanitary Board; that is the business of

the Public Works Department, and the Government can decide between them and us. But there is another way out of the difficulty, as I have pointed out before: these nettings could be fixed in such a way that, whilst they are of practical use in keeping the rats in the drains, they could be lifted in one instant whenever a storm comes on; in fact, a child could lift them. It is done by hinging them on one side. I quite appreciate the difficulty which Mr. Chatham has spoken of, but at the same time I believe the nettings have been of use, and it would be a pity to get rid of them if the difficulty can be got over in the way I have suggested.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—With regard to what Mr. Osborne has said, sir, as to hinging these grids, everyone knows they are very light in construction, and it stands to reason—at least, it seems perfectly obvious to me—that they would never be closed, and if they could so very easily be operated then even a rat could push them open and get out if it wished to do so.

Mr. OSBORNE—Sir, I beg to move as an amendment that the Government be asked to hinge these nettings or attempt to get over the difficulty in some other way than by removing them.

Lieut.-Col. HUGHES—I beg to second. I also am greatly opposed to doing away with these grids. We recommended these nettings last year when we were taking every precaution to fight the plague in the coming season, and it was only after very mature consideration that the Board agreed to have them put up. Personally, I think myself they have done good service in the present case. The rat transmits plague to man—no one can gainsay that,—and our object is to keep the rat away as much as we can, and I believe these grids have done that. I venture to say we have had a heavier rainfall up to date this year in Hongkong certainly than we had last year; the first rainy season I saw here, and I have not seen any wonderful amount of damage done—houses washed away, or anything of that sort.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—If I may be allowed again, sir, I should like to say, with regard to Col. Hughes's emphasis of the remark made by Mr. Osborne, that it is a mistake for members to flatter themselves that these grids can have had any material effect in the direction indicated—as regards keeping the rats in, because, as I say, I have seen times without number, in going about the streets, these gratings pulled back, and what practical value can be placed upon them when they are in that position? Any number of rats could come out. It is entirely wrong to say they have had any practical effect in keeping the rats in the drains for any long period.

Mr. OSBORNE—I may be under a wrong impression. It is quite true that this year some of these gratings have been displaced but it is only recently. These nettings were not displaced until after the first heavy rainstorm, and they certainly did a lot to keep the rats in the drains.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—Cannot the Sanitary Board arrange to have a dozen coolies to look after this netting? They could go round every day in the rainy season and lift them up or put them back again.

The PRESIDENT—Dr. Clark informs us that 100 coolies are told off to do this work.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUN—In that case I don't think they are doing their work properly.

Mr. Osborne's amendment was then put to the meeting and carried by a majority of 5 to 2, the Director of Public Works and Mr. Messer voting against it.

CHOLERA AT TIENTSIN.

Mr. OSBORNE—I notice, sir, that Tientsin has been proclaimed an infected port, but Tongku and Taku have not been included, as suggested by the Board. As everyone knows, there is not the slightest use in declaring Tientsin when all ships come from Tongku or Taku. They do not come from Tientsin at all, except a few very small ones. The cholera is at Tientsin, and Tongku is the port of Tientsin; Taku is just outside in the Bay; and although there may not be any cholera at Tongku and Taku still the people coming from Tientsin come through these ports, either by boats down the river or by rail. It is Tientsin we want to guard against, yet although ships might come

from Tongku or Taku loaded with passengers or cargo from Tientsin, and reeking with cholera, we could take no steps to protect ourselves against them.

The PRESIDENT—We cannot declare them infected until we have information to that effect. Our information at present is that there is no cholera at Tongku or Taku.

Mr. OSBORNE—It is just a case like that of Shanghai; although Shanghai is declared infected, you could not inspect ships from Woosung.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS—I think the Government might be asked if any steps could be taken to carry out Mr. Osborne's suggestion. It seems perfectly sound that this step should be taken; I do not know whether it is practicable or not.

This proposal was unanimously approved of.

ANALYSES OF WATER.

A report was laid on the table, showing that Mr. F. Browne, Government Analyst, had analysed water from the Kowloon, Tytam, Pokfulam, and Cheung Sha Wan services; the results in each case showed that the water was of excellent quality.

FOOD AND DRUGS ORDINANCE.

A report was laid on the table which showed that Mr. F. Browne, Government Analyst, had during the quarter ended 30th June examined 2 samples of bread and found both genuine; 1 beer, genuine; 2 gin, genuine; 4 milk, genuine; 3 whisky, genuine.

THE DEATH-RATE.

The mortality statistics showed that the death-rate during the week ended 14th June was 27.6 per 1,000 of the population per annum, as against 26.9 in the previous week and 44.4 in the corresponding week of the previous year.

This was all the public business.

DINNER TO SIR CHIHCHEN LO FENG-LU.

About fifty members of the Chinese Fokhien community and guests assembled in the Connaught House on the 9th inst. to attend a banquet given in honour of Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu, K.C.V.O., who was recently Chinese Minister at the Court of St. James, and who arrived by the German mail yesterday. Mr. Kaw Hong Take presided, and unfortunately the distinguished guest was unable to be present, but his two sons, his brother, and several officials of his staff attended.

An excellent dinner was provided, and after the usual loyal toasts of the King, and the Emperor of China had been honoured,

The CHAIRMAN said that he regretted exceedingly that they should be disappointed in the object of their meeting together that night, namely to do honour to their distinguished fellow-countryman Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu. Unfortunately, as many of them anticipated from the telegram they received from Singapore, his health would not permit his dining with them and to receive personally the reception they had prepared for him. He had, however, asked his son and his other relations to join them, and they were all, he was sure, delighted to meet the relations of one who, as Minister at the Court of St. James, had so ably sustained the dignity of his responsible office, and drawn closer the ties between the British and the Chinese Government. Their best wishes went with Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu for his speedy recovery, and they all sincerely trusted that his much needed rest at his home in Fokhien would soon enable him to assume an even higher office which the Chinese Government was bound to bestow on one so able and so upright. He asked them to drink with him long life and prosperity to Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu and his family, coupled with the name of his eldest son.

The eldest son of the Minister made a very appropriate response, and other toasts were proposed by Mr. NG SAU SHANG of "The Guests," coupled with the names of the Hon. WAI YUK, and Mr. HO TUNG, who suitably responded—Mr. HO TUNG referring to the able way in which Mr. Kaw Hong Take had arranged the proceedings. The toast of "The Press," proposed by the CHAIRMAN, was responded to by Mr. A. CUNNINGHAM. Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent,

which was only marred by the unavoidable absence of the one whom it was arranged to honour.

Sir Chihchen Lo Feng-lu will proceed to Shanghai, and from there will return to his home at Foochow.

THE HEALTH OF HONGKONG.

The total plague figures on Monday were:—412 cases (3 Europeans, 394 Chinese, 15 other Asiatics), and 402 deaths (1 European, 389 Chinese, 12 other Asiatics).

During the two days ending at noon on the 7th, 7 fresh plague cases were reported in the Colony, the two most notable being a couple of European cases on board the s.s. *Valetta*. Since then up to noon on Saturday there have been 20 more cases (17 Chinese, 2 Indian, one Japanese), making a total of 433 cases in all.

The cases of communicable disease in the Colony in the week ending the 5th inst. were:—Plague, 32 (31 Chinese, 1 Indian), with 31 deaths; cholera, 9 (1 European, 4 Chinese, 3 Japanese, 1 Indian), with 6 deaths; small-pox, 1 (Chinese), fatal.

THE VOLUNTEER CORONATION CONTINGENT.

Writing under date 2nd June, on board the *Empress of Japan*, our correspondent with the Hongkong Coronation contingent of Volunteers says:—

"We left Yokohama at 12.30 p.m. on Friday, 23rd May. The first two days out were a bit rough, which rather upset some of the contingent. We had a church parade on Sunday, 25th May. The service was taken by Bishop Awdry, of Tokyo, who preached a very good sermon. Though a fairly old-looking man, he is a keen sport, joining us at cricket, potato and wheel-barrow races. I wish we had him on the Island of Fragrant Streams! We have had several days of rain-drizzle and fog—raw weather, with the temperature down to 41. Warm clothes had to be served out.

"The King's Birthday, 20th May, was duly observed, the whole contingent parading at 11 a.m. We have on board Major-General Fukushima, of Tientsin and Peking fame. He is on his way to London for the Coronation. He is a typical Jap, with rather a good face, and very courteous. When approached, he said he would be very pleased to inspect the contingent. This he did in uniform and decked out with medals, orders, etc. He was received with the general salute—'Present arms.' He went down the line, and after this was over the Royal salute was given, helmets being doffed and three cheers given for His Majesty. After parade the captain, officers and passengers adjourned to the saloon, where the King's health was drunk in champagne, Commander W.C. Pakenham, R.N., stood 'fizz.' 'God save the King' was also sung. Major General Fukushima visited the men's quarters at their tiffin time. Three cheers were given by the men, and the General said he was very pleased indeed and felt highly honoured. About twelve kodaks, etc., were much in evidence during the parade and after. A group was formed by Capt Pybus, Bishop Awdry, Maj-Gen Fukushima, Major Chapman, Capt. James, and Lieut. Armstrong, and they had to stand and be potted at. They were kept standing some time, so that all of the many photographers should get a shot.

"Sports were held during the latter part of the morning and all afternoon. In the evening a concert was given on deck by the Volunteers, when the following contributed.—Major Chapman, Sergt. Wolf, Copl. Hance, Privts. Heckford, Hainsworth, Gunrs. Leykum, Logan, Lammert, Claridge, Witchell, and Spr. Edward. Gunr. Jordan accompanied.

"A great deal of fun has been obtained by chalking rings round passengers who visited the Volunteer poop-deck. There is an unwritten law that if a person visits the fore-castle or poop and one of the crew draws a ring round him on the deck with chalk, the person has to "stump up." The Volunteers have secured several free drinks in this manner. Sir Thomas Jackson and Mr. J. J. Bell-Irving were amongst those who visited the poop-deck to see the Volunteers at their games, etc., and

they were both chalked. The former sent over four boxes of "No. 1" cigars and the latter drinks for all the men. On Saturday, 31st May, the sports were continued. The Volunteers had an obstacle race, and biscuit, glass of water, and wheel-barrow races. A tug-of-war was won by Sergt. Andrew's team of eight men. Four teams entered. Yesterday (Sunday) we paraded for church at 11 a.m.; the service was taken by Bishop Awdry.

"On the whole the men have been very well. There are two or three half-hearted fellows who do not seem to care for the soldier's lot. There was a complaint about the food, but this was at once fixed up by the chief steward, Mr. Vick, when the matter was put before him. Taking it all round, the men are having a very good time. They have also behaved themselves well, and have tried to be good soldiers. Drill every day has done much to smarten them up. They are very fit now both in drill and health and spirits."

Writing from Vancouver on Wednesday, 4th June, our correspondent says:—

"We arrived at Victoria at 9 a.m. yesterday, but stayed only a short time; no one went on shore, there being nothing much to see. Lt.-Col. Holmes, the District Officer Commanding, came on board, also two R.A. officers. Col. Holmes came down here with us and made an informal inspection of the contingent. While at the wharf at Victoria, some excitement was caused by the *Shinano Maru* running into us when trying to berth at the wharf next to us. She stove in, but not badly, two of our boats, bent a strong davit, smashed a spar (about 8 in.) and did some damage to the cargo port aft. The *Maru* had all her fore-castle railings smashed and anchor damaged, and sustained a dent in her side. We left Victoria at 11.30 a.m. and arrived here about 4 p.m., a pretty good run. There was a fairly large crowd on the wharf to meet us, but the local Volunteer band did not turn up, as, owing to our quick run, we were about an hour ahead of our time.

"It was rather a pity, as it would have livened things up a bit. The band was warned for 8 p.m., and by that time we were all on shore. Our contingent created a great sensation here, as a soldier is very rarely seen. The Indians and Chinese drew quite little crowds after them. The Volunteer officers came on board to meet our officers. The regiment here is the 6th Regiment (Duke of Connaught's Own Rifles). Lt.-Col. Wainop is in command. We are to entrain at 8 p.m. to-day and leave at 1 p.m. tomorrow. There is to be an inspection by the General to-night."

"The contingent is all well, and the Volunteers are behaving themselves, with one or two exceptions, who overstayed their leave, etc. The culprits were hauled over the coals."

A Montreal despatch of the 11th ult. says:—"The members of the Hongkong contingent, who arrived here this morning, spent the day sight-seeing. To-morrow they are to be inspected by Lieutenant-Colonel Roy, D.O.C., after which they will witness the Eastern League baseball game. They sail on Saturday by the *Tunisian*. They are a fine body of men, and have made a splendid impression." By the *Tunisian*, which conveyed our representatives to England, there also sailed the Canadian team for Bisley.

Mr. Le Mesurier, the ex-civil servant of Ceylon, whose conversion to Mohammedanism caused so much sensation, has succeeded in his libel case against the *Ceylon Independent* on appeal. Damages are fixed at £1,500, and the costs will probably increase this three-fold.

The St Petersburg *Sviet* recently published an exhaustive article deploring the inadequacy of the docking accommodation at Port Arthur and the lack of an ice-free naval station, compelling Russian ships to winter in Japanese harbours. The journal urges that it is certain that during hostilities Japan would blockade Port Arthur and Vladivostok and sees many sinister possibilities in the present situation. It declares that it is an absolute necessity for Russia to acquire a fresh *point-d'appui* on the Pacific Coast, preferably at Masampo. It is to be presumed that the *Sviet* has never heard of the phrase "the integrity of Corea."

IMPORTANT DECISION IN EXTRADITION CASE.

Before Mr. F. Hazeland at the Magistracy on Monday, the 7th inst., his Worship delivered the following important and interesting decision in a case in which the Chinese Government applied for the extradition of a prisoner for a crime alleged to have been committed within the jurisdiction of the Emperor of China:—

The fugitive criminal Wong Man Tsap was charged before me under the Chinese Extradition Ordinance (1889) with the crime of robbery with violence within the jurisdiction of China. The crime is alleged to have happened on 24th April, 1901, at 1.30 a.m., at the village of U Piu, near Sam Chun, within the Empire of China. The preamble to the said Ordinance is as follows:—"Whereas by Article XXI. of the Treaty between Her Majesty and the Emperor of China done at Tientsin on 26th June, 1858, it was agreed and concluded that if criminals, subjects of China, shall take refuge in Hongkong or on board the British ships there, they shall, upon due requisition by the Chinese authorities, be searched for, and on proof of their guilt be delivered up." Section 10 of the Chinese Extradition Ordinance is as follows:—"When a fugitive criminal is brought before a magistrate, he shall hear the case in the same manner and have the same jurisdiction and power, as nearly as may be, as if the prisoner were brought before him charged with an indictable offence committed in the Colony." This Section is a re-enactment of Section 9 of the Extradition Act, 1870. Section 76 of the Magistrates' Ordinance (1890) lays down the practice to be followed with respect to the magistrate's decision in indictable offences. This Section is a re-enactment of Section 25 of 11 and 12 Victoria, c. 42; commonly known as Jervis' Act. Section 76 of the Magistrates' Ordinance is as follows:—"When all the evidence offered on the part of the prosecution against the accused has been heard, if the magistrate should be of opinion that it is not sufficient to put the accused upon his trial for any indictable offence, such magistrate shall forthwith order the accused, if in custody, to be discharged as to the information thereunder enquiry; but if, in the opinion of such magistrate, such evidence is sufficient to put the accused upon his trial for an indictable offence, or if the evidence given raise a strong or probable presumption of the guilt of the accused, then such magistrate shall, by his warrant, commit him to prison to be safely kept until he shall be thence delivered by due course of law or admit him to bail as hereinbefore mentioned." The practice to be followed as to how and when this discretion is to be exercised is set out in a footnote in Oke's *Magisterial Synopsis*, at page 898. The footnote is as follows:—"In Cox and Coleridge (1 B and C 50) Mr. Justice Bayley observed: 'I think that a magistrate is bound, in exercise of a sound discretion, not to commit any one unless a *prima facie* case is made out against him by witnesses entitled to a reasonable degree of credit.' Justices ought not, therefore, to balance the evidence and decide according as it preponderates, for this would in fact be taking upon themselves the functions of the petty jury, and be trying the case; but they should consider whether or not the evidence makes out a strong or probable or even a *conflicting* case of guilt; in any one of which cases they should commit the accused to trial. If, however, from the slender nature of the evidence, the unworthiness of the witness, or the conclusive proof of innocence produced on the part of the accused, they feel that the case is not sustained, and that if they sent it for trial he must be acquitted, they should discharge the accused." By the Treaty of Tientsin, referred to in the preamble to the Ordinance, a fugitive criminal is to be committed only on proof of his guilt. By the Chinese Extradition Ordinance (1889), he is to be committed when a *prima facie* case has been made out against him by witnesses entitled to a reasonable degree of credit. This raises the following legal point, *viz.*, whether, the Treaty which is narrower in its terms than the Extradition Ordinance,

the operation of the said Ordinance is limited to what is consistent with the Treaty. A similar point was decided in the case of *Reg. v. Wilson* (L. R., 3 Q. B. D. 42). The facts of that case were as follows:—The fugitive criminal, Alfred Thomas Wilson, was claimed by the Swiss Government under the Treaty of 1874, which provided that no British subject should be surrendered to Switzerland. It was proved that the prisoner Wilson was a British subject, but the Chief Magistrate at Bow Street held that he was not entitled to go beyond the Act and look at the terms of the Treaty, and that as there was no provision in the Act against the surrender of British subjects, he ought to commit the prisoner with a view to his extradition. The case came before the Queen's Bench Division on a return to a writ of *habeas corpus*, and Sir Edward Clarke (then Mr. Edward Clarke) for the prisoner contended that the Treaty recited in the Order of Council must be read together with the Act. Messrs. C. Bowen and H. D. Green contra argued that the Legislature could not have intended that it should be the duty of the Magistrate to ascertain the law from the text of diplomatic papers, and that the effect of the Treaty was merely that the surrender of our own subjects should not be compulsory. The Court, however (Cockburn, C.J., Mellor and Field, J.J.) held that the Act was clearly limited by the Treaty, and ordered the discharge of the prisoner (see *Clarke on Extradition*, p. 171). The defence set up by the fugitive criminal herein was that of an *alibi*, which was proved to my satisfaction. Moreover, the evidence of the two witnesses called by the prosecution to prove the identity of the prisoner was most conflicting and unsatisfactory. Putting myself in the position of a jurymen, I unhesitatingly return a verdict of "Not guilty." Before ordering the fugitive criminal herein to be discharged, I am required by Section 12 of the Ordinance to cause notice of my intention to make such an order to be served on the Crown Solicitor. I propose, therefore, remanding the said fugitive criminal until Monday, 14th July, at 12 o'clock noon.

Hon. F. J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police, prosecuted, and the defence was in the hands of Mr. G. C. C. Master, solicitor.

BOTANICAL AND AFFORESTATION DEPARTMENT IN 1901.

The report of Mr. Charles Ford, Superintendent of the above Department, is published in the *Gazette*. We make the following extracts:—

FORESTRY IN HONGKONG.

Planting operations in Hongkong were the smallest on record since afforestation work was established. The total number of trees planted was 1,719 which amounted to one small day's work in the usual order of planting. Annual plantings should, at least, equal the number of trees destroyed by fire or by illicit tree-cutters in the previous year which, however, exceeded those planted by 971, but these will be far more than made good this year as arrangements are made for bringing up the numbers either by planting or sowing seeds to about that of the previous year's work, which was 54,000.

The planting of lands suitable for trees either in regard to their growth or facilities for protection is almost completed in the island except in catch-water areas of reservoirs, and those are being attended to this year. Afterwards planting generally will be only needed to replace losses by fires or other mischief.

Thinning of Plantations.—There was also a little diminished activity in this work. The number of trees cut out was 32,274, which sold for \$728.15, a decrease of \$96.30 compared with 1900. The items and particulars are provided in Appendix D.

Fires.—There was a considerable increase in the number of fires and trees destroyed by them, 12,174 trees having been killed and there were 41 fires. Little Hongkong district has a very bad reputation in this respect, as have also Mount Davis and Mount Kellie, the two latter owing their misfortunes most probably chiefly to the people who frequent the graves there.

Experience points out the necessity of still further widening fire barriers as trees increase in size, especially when they are on steep

declivities. Probably 50 feet will be a necessary width in some places. About 32 miles of fire barriers were cleared and 3 miles of new ones made.

Protective Service.—Only 310 trees were reported as having been stolen, but there is evidence that the forest guards have been very slack and I have no doubt they have neglected to report in many cases as tree-cutters seem to have been pretty active. The guards had 55 cases, but of these there was the very unusual number of 19 acquittals; the number of convictions averaged about 7 only for each man for the whole year. There is only one forest guard who has as much as one year's service, it is therefore not surprising that with so many changes their work is far from what is desired.

FORESTRY IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

Tree Planting.—As mentioned in my Report for 1899 soon after the New Territory was taken over I made arrangements and operations were commenced in October for planting about 80,000 trees. Four new Police Stations were first to have about 20,000 trees planted in their neighbourhoods and then a beginning was to be made with planting about 60,000 in a broad band on each side of the new road which had been commenced and was to run from Kowloon to Taipo. I hoped that in time the roadside planting would be extended year by year, to Taipo, a distance of 17 miles. The number of trees actually planted was 81,154 and they consisted chiefly of Pines, Camphors, Eucalyptus and Tristanias. A considerable number of pine and camphor tree seeds were sown *in situ*, the failures—there are always some—have now been re-sown or re-planted. In addition to these a supplementary plan was carried out of sowing seeds of *Pinus Massoniana* broadcast on each side of the road between the 3rd and 6th mile-stones and they have given most satisfactory results. A rough measurement of the land sown and estimate of seedlings give an addition to the 81,000 named above of about 22,000 which were not alluded to in the Report for 1900, making a total for the first year's work in the New Territory of about 103,000 trees.

Broadcast sowing, if the land on which the seeds are sown and the time of sowing are well chosen, produces as good plantations as the more expensive plans of sowing *in situ* or of planting trees. The total costs of planting in the New Territory amount to about \$54 per acre, whereas the cost of broadcast sowing are only about \$5 per acre. Each method has to be adopted according to circumstance, but in future broadcast sowing should receive special attention and planting should be reduced to narrow limits. This conclusion is the result of careful experiments and observations which I have made for some years past.

During the past year the working plan sketched in 1899 has been extended by 11,800 trees being planted around Police Stations, two of them new ones, and 125,565 continuing the new road, the latter composed of 17,407 trees planted, 98,158 trees reared *in situ* in prepared soil and 10,000 reared from broadcast sowings.

Eucalyptus and Malaria.—A great deal has been made at different times and places of the supposed benefits of planting *Eucalyptus* in malarious places, a theory which I have never been converted to and about which for many years I have spoken words of caution to those who pinned their faith to it. Last year the medical authorities here recommended the planting of *Eucalyptus* in selected places in the New Territory and in Hongkong and preparations were made for carrying out the recommendations and planting *Eucalyptus* this spring, although two of the places were, as I understand, under water and where, of course, nothing could be done until they were first filled it with soil but which work I believe is not yet done. In connection with this subject I may quote what Professor Angelo Celli, an authority on malaria, said in his book "Malaria According to the New Researches," published in 1890. Writing of trees planted near Rome he says, at page 142: "The *Eucalyptus* planted round our railway stations are now proved to be useless against malaria, if even they do not do more harm than good by harbouring the mosquitoes near the houses. Here outside the gates of the city, at Tre Fontane, an intensely malarious spot, there is a fine wood of them, and in Australia there are enormous forests

of these trees and all are malarious." And again, at page 234, he says: "That the planting of woods is not a protection against malaria has been demonstrated by the example already recorded of the Tre Fontane, where in spite of the *Eucalyptus* wood, which has grown vigorously, this disease still remains." In consideration of facts such as these, which were not altogether unknown before the publication of Professor Celli's book, I think caution should be exercised in adopting planting recommendations for the object of preventing malaria only. The planting of *Eucalyptus* trees which has been done here was not intended any more than the planting of the other trees as a preventative of malaria specially but was in common with all tree-planting intended to act in other ways for the improvement and healthfulness of the districts.

Fire Barriers.—Trees planted have been protected from fire as far as possible by making 4 miles of fire barriers 15 feet wide and re-clearing 1 mile 10 feet wide.

Conservancy.—No system of conservancy of trees which were in existence before the territory was taken over has yet been adopted, as the time has not yet arrived for taking action in this matter, but notes and information are being collected in preparation for what may seem advisable in due course. The Government is in possession of information connected with this subject and also of my views on the same to which there is no necessity for making further allusion here.

Estimates.—I found that \$8,000 had been placed on the Estimates of the Department for expenditure in the New Territory this year, but as this was in excess of present requirements and was based on a proposed plan of work which was unsatisfactory and included rearing trees by the more expensive system of sowing *in situ* instead of the effective and vastly less expensive system of sowing broadcast above referred to, I recommended its reduction to \$3,000 which is ample for this year.

ECONOMIC GARDEN.

In C.S.O. No. 1,768 (1), dated 7th July, 1899, when dealing with the subject of the New Territory I suggested amongst other things the establishment of an Experimental Garden for the purpose of introducing and distributing amongst the cultivators plants of economic value which would be new to the territory. In 1900 this object was approved and money provided in the Estimates for carrying it out in 1901, when, during my absence, a site for the garden was selected and an attempt made to purchase the land, but the matter of ownership and the high price asked for the land caused a delay and the question was still open on my return in September, which, however, was quite early enough as the land could not have been dealt with satisfactorily at that time. On inspection I found the selected site unsuitable and recommended its abandonment, which was approved, and another site has been chosen which has all the advantages desired. This newly chosen site, which is accessible in one hour from Hongkong by launch, has also the advantage, which the other had not, of proximity to suitable hill land for experimental forest tree cultivation which can be conducted under the same economical management as the garden will have.

KOWLOON PUBLIC RECREATION GROUND.

In 1898, His Excellency the Governor Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G., foresaw the necessity of providing additional recreation grounds, and after discussion of the subject he requested me to submit a report on the most favourable site for a Park at Kowloon. This report was forwarded on January 12th, 1899. It contained a recommendation for the formation of a large Park of about 90 acres of land, part of which was to be taken up by a new road that should open out on one side for a good class of houses. In the event of this scheme being considered too ambitious or of there being then insurmountable difficulties in carrying it out, I submitted an alternative plan which would allow of a Park of about 11 acres being made at first. This large scheme would necessitate the removal of Military, Navy and Police rifle ranges and the forfeiture or exchange of other Military interests. At the time there were difficulties in carrying out either scheme, but in the early part of 1900 the Honourable F. H. May, C.M.G., who was then Acting Colonial

Secretary, brought up the subject for reconsideration, with the result that the lesser scheme was sanctioned. Changed conditions having made still greater claims for extended recreation grounds and the probabilities of their acquirement having become more hopeful I made a request in January of this year for a further reconsideration of the large scheme and it received the warm support of His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Sir William J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G. It is hoped, therefore, that during the present year a very large portion of the main scheme will be sanctioned and that plans and arrangements for laying it out can be put in hand. This land would provide public golf links and lawns for tennis, bowling, football, croquet, &c., in combination with an ornamental Park. The Honourable J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G., suggested at the first meeting of the Coronation Committee that this work should form a permanent memorial of the Coronation of His Majesty King Edward VII and that the grounds should be named King's Park.

WESTERN DISTRICT PARK.

The upper portion of this land was laid out in 1898 by the Public Works and the Botanical and Afforestation Departments, the former making roads and re-distributing a large amount of soil, and the latter continuing soil re-arrangements and carrying out the turfing and planting. Part of the money for the work was provided by the Government and part by the owners of property in the district. In response to a desire of residents in the neighbourhood the Government decided last year to extend the work to the portion of land on the north side of Lower Richmond Road, and \$10,000 for this purpose was included by this Department in the Estimates for 1902. This, however, I found was much in excess of what was necessary and the sum was consequently reduced to \$5,000. The work will again be carried out jointly by the Public Works and the Botanical Departments, the former having the heaviest portion in hand. The maintenance of this Park, for which no additional sum of money has been provided, will rest with this Department and the expense will be defrayed by the Forestry Vote, which is sufficient for the purpose at present.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING OF BOTANIC GARDENS.

In June of last year His Excellency Major-General Sir W. J. Gascoigne, K.C.M.G., communicated with His Excellency the Governor reporting an offer of Lieutenant-Colonel Teverham, to allow his regimental land to play on certain days in the Botanic Gardens for the benefit of the public. In consequence of this it was decided to make provision for lighting the Gardens by electricity for which a sum of \$800 was placed on the Estimates for the year. An examination of the proposed arrangements have, however, revealed some weak points which required further consideration and, if eventually adopted, perhaps certain modifications. In the meantime satisfactory arrangements can be made for lighting by other means.

THE PILOT-LICENSING QUESTION.

We have received for publication the following letter on the above subject:—

Hongkong, 10th June.

SIR,—As requested by the Committee of the General Chamber of Commerce, we have considered the question of licensing the pilots at this port and in this connection have had before us the following letters:—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., to Chamber of Commerce, dated 2nd May; Chamber of Commerce to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, dated 9th May; the Hon. the Colonial Secretary to Chamber of Commerce, dated 15th May. We now beg to place before the Committee our views on this subject.

2. A considerable demand exists, and has existed for years, for pilots at this port, more particularly for the purpose of berthing steamers at the wharves of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co.

3. Up to the present this work has been carried on by Chinese who in the past were all or nearly all well known men possessed of the requisite knowledge and capable of handling the class of vessels then visiting the port.

4. While all vessels do not make use of Chinese pilots, many commanders find it an advantage to have a man on board with local knowledge as to the state of the tides, currents, and the position of the various ships in harbour.

5. With the increasing number and size of the vessels now visiting Hongkong there is a corresponding increase in the need for a sufficient number of qualified men to act as pilots.

6. The older class of Chinese pilots are through progression of time disappearing and their place is being taken by men not possessing the requisite knowledge for the work now demanded of them.

7. A few of the shipping companies are able to employ suitable men, but many commanders are obliged on arrival at the entrance of the harbour to take the first man who boards his ship without having any means of knowing whether he is capable of handling the vessel properly.

8. The risk of loss of life and property which may result from the improper handling of a vessel is too well understood to require discussion. We are strongly of the opinion which has already been expressed by the General Committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the time has now arrived when the pilots in this port should be put under proper Government control, as has already been done in the case of masters and engineers of steam-launches.

6. We do not propose that pilotage should be compulsory, but our suggestion is that no one, native or foreigner, should be allowed to act as a pilot inside Hongkong waters for any vessel (other than native sailing craft) unless he holds a certificate of competency from the Harbour Master.

10. The certificate to be issued yearly, to bear the photograph of the holder, with other necessary information. The certificate to be produced when asked for on boarding a vessel.

11. We would suggest that the fee for certificate should be a nominal one, say \$20 for first certificate and \$5 a year for renewal.

12. No limit to be placed on the number of licences issued. The question of limiting licences and forming the pilots into a regular associated body can be considered at a later day if found desirable.

13. As masters of vessels visiting this port have hitherto engaged unlicensed pilots, we would suggest that should it be decided in future to issue licences to pilots, a notice to this effect be inserted in the Harbour Regulations for the information of the masters of vessels.

14. In the event of any complaint being made against a certificated pilot, the Harbour Master to hold an enquiry into the matter and to have the power to punish the pilot if found guilty of the charge brought against him.

15. The complaints which should be investigated to be those of carelessness, or incompetency in navigation, insolence to the officer of the ship or officers of the Harbour Department, drunkenness or any other acts of misdemeanour which may militate against the efficient carrying out of a pilot's duties.

16. The persons who will have the power to ask the Harbour Master to enquire into the conduct of any pilot should be:—The officers of the Harbour Department and/or Water Police; the master or owners of any other vessel on which the pilot is engaged; the master or owners of any vessel or any person whose property may have been injured (or even jeopardised) through the action of the pilot.

17. The Harbour Master should have the power to punish a pilot found guilty of misconduct or improper navigation by the infliction of fines or by the temporary suspension or cancellation of his certificate.

18. A pilot whose certificate is absolutely cancelled should not on any further occasion obtain another certificate.

19. In making these suggestions it is not intended that the Colonial Government in any way accept any responsibility in issuing certificates. The examination and control of the pilots to be merely an executive function such as is carried out in Great Britain by the Board of Trade or the Trinity House.

We have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servants,

E. A. HEWETT.
A. HAUT.
W. POATE.

A. R. LOWE, Esq., Secretary,
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

H.M.S. "OCEAN'S" SHOOTING AT WEIHAWEI.

The *N.-C. Daily News* correspondent writes from Weihaiwei on the 23rd June:—

H.M.S. *Terrible* has earned a high reputation for excellence at gunnery practice, the result of much training, and Captain Percy Scott and his crew received well-merited praise for their performances. But recently H.M.S. *Ocean* has been able to beat the scores of the *Terrible* and all previous records by taking a leaf out of Captain Scott's book. By an extremely simple contrivance the gunners—and it appears that it takes two to control the aiming of each big gun—have obtained that practice that makes for perfection. An ordinary rifle is attached to the gun, so as to move with it and point in the same direction when the gunners place the sights on the target. A target, proportionately small, is dangled in front of the gun. An iron box, to catch stray shots passing the target, completes the apparatus. By constant exercise the gunners of the *Ocean* have recently been able to give a wonderful exhibition of marksmanship. They have beaten the record of the *Terrible* by fifteen hits in the same time. It should be stated that last year misfires were allowed for and an extra run given, but this year no such allowance has been made.

There is a difference, too, in the competing ships that should be noticed. The heaviest guns of the *Terrible* are 9-inch, but the *Ocean* carries 12-inch cannon. To give particulars, with her twelve 6-inch guns she fired 163 rounds and hit the target 117 times. When it is observed that all this weight of metal could be thrown into opposing ships in two minutes as a double broadside, we get some faint notion of the destructive energy of a modern warship. The four 12-inch guns were fired 25 times and shells were placed on the target 17 times. There were several misfires and minor accidents. Of the 6-inch breechloaders three guns had a misfire at the sixth, eighth and twelfth rounds, respectively. The auxiliary rammers of the biggest guns jammed in one case after the third round, in another after the eighth round. One of these monsters also had a misfire at the sixth round.

The range for the heaviest ordnance was about 1,900 yards, and for the smaller weapons it varied between 1,300 and 1,500 yards. On the average a 12-inch gun fired a shot weighing 850 lbs. every 45 seconds. Of the marksmen Gunner Skein stands first with a score of nine rounds and nine hits in one minute. Petty Officer Collins comes next, scoring eight hits in the same time. Both these men had charge of 6-inch guns. The target measured 2 feet 4 inches by 16 feet 9 inches. It need hardly be added that this splendid feat reflects the greatest credit on the officers and men of H.M.S. *Ocean*. We may be allowed to express the pious hope that other ships will go and do likewise.

A NEW INDO-CHINA S.N. CO. STEAMER.

The s.s. *Namsang*, which has just come out from home to supplement the fleet of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., has been attracting much attention among the shipping community as she lies in the Harbour, on account of her great size, which gives her a foremost place among the steamers sailing out of Hongkong. She is specially designed for the run between this port and Calcutta. Before being put on the regular service, however, the *Namsang* is to have a preliminary run to Hongay, carrying a part cargo of coal. She leaves for Hongay on Saturday. On her return she will be fitted out for the Indian service. The *Namsang* is a steel screw steamer of over 4,000 tons, with a deadweight carrying capacity of a little more than 6,000 tons. She measures 370 feet long by 47 feet broad, and has triple expansion engines of 400 nominal h.p., three main boilers of the marine type, and Deighton's furnaces with Howden's forced draught. She was built by the London and Glasgow Shipbuilding and Engineering Co. On her trial trip, she made the handsome average of 13.59 knots light. As regards accommodation, the *Namsang* carries 16 first-class European passengers, 20 first-class Chinese, and

50 second-class deck passengers. Her cargo-lifting appliances are of the most modern type, comprising four 3-ton jib cranes, four steam winches, derricks, etc., by Messrs. Clark, Chapman & Co. She is lighted with electricity throughout. Captain G. Payne is in command of the new steamer. The agents are Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

MIXED COURT JURISDICTION AT SHANGHAI.

The *N.-C. Daily News* says:—So far as we know there has been no official publication of the decision of the Diplomatic Body on the subject of the jurisdiction of the two Settlements at Shanghai, and we are not aware of the channel through which what purports to be that decision has been made public; we can therefore interpret the decision only as it has been published, and we feel that the Municipal Council are entitled to the thanks of the foreign community in urging that the subject be brought to the attention of the proper authority in order that it might be clearly settled. It seems to us that the regulations which have been published, as embodying the decision of the Diplomatic Body, can be interpreted with greater clearness in immediate connection with the two cases out of which arose the issue between the Consular Body and the Municipal Council and a brief reference to those cases and where they would be tried, if they were to come up anew, will determine in whose favour the Diplomatic Body has decided the issue.

The first case was that of a coolie in the employment of the French firm of Messrs. Ulysse Pila & Co., residing in the International Settlement. The coolie was charged with violating a Municipal regulation of the International Settlement, and a warrant was issued for the arrest of the coolie for trial in the International Mixed Court, but the French Consul-General refused to countersign the warrant. Now in accordance with the decision of the Diplomatic Body it would be the duty of the French Consul-General to countersign such warrant, and the coolie would be tried in the Mixed Court of the International Settlement where the offence charged was committed. In the above case the contention of the Municipal Council has been fully sustained.

The second case was that of a Chinese, residing on the French Concession, who had applied for and obtained from the French Mixed Court a warrant against a Chinese residing in the International Settlement, and the contention of the Municipal Council was that the Chinese residing in the International Settlement should not be sent to the French Mixed Court without having a preliminary hearing in the Mixed Court of the Settlement in which he resided. If a similar case should come up again how would it be conducted under the decision of the Diplomatic Body? The answer to that question is given by the new regulation, which provides, that in all such cases the Chinese residing in the French Concession would have to sue the Chinese residing in the Mixed Court of the International Settlement; he could not sue in the French Mixed Court at all, and the Diplomatic Body has gone further than the Municipal Council even, and decided, that in cases between Chinese only the plaintiff must sue the defendant in the Mixed Court of the settlement in which the defendant resides. The Council contended for a preliminary hearing, but the Diplomatic Body, fully sustaining the Council, decided that there shall not only be a preliminary hearing but a trial. Under the decision of the Diplomatic Body there is not a case that can arise when a Chinese, residing in the International Settlement, can be sent to the French Mixed Court for trial, except in the case when a French citizen is plaintiff, and in all other cases when a foreigner, not of French nationality, is plaintiff, the Chinese, whether residing in the International Settlement or in the French Concession, shall be tried in the Mixed Court of the International Settlement.

In the adjustment of the jurisdiction of the two Mixed Courts the Diplomatic Body has kept in view the principle of local government, for the regulations are no less explicit in providing that offenders against Municipal and Police ordinances shall be tried in the Mixed Court of the Settlement in which the offence

was committed. We congratulate the Municipal Council as well as the Consular Body that a clearer understanding now obtains on what has heretofore been a somewhat tacitly understood agreement on this subject of mixed jurisdiction, and the Ratepayers of Shanghai have done well in making known their views on that subject.

COAL CONSUMPTION ON THE CHINA STATION.

During their run from Hongkong to Yokohama the relative expenditure of coal on the following ships of H.M. Navy was as follows:—

Coal expended in eight days.			
		tons	cwt.
<i>Ocean</i> ...	551	0	0
<i>Glory</i> ...	629	18	0
<i>Goliath</i> ...	657	15	0
<i>Albion</i> ...	662	0	0

The above figures (says the *Ocean Magazine*) speak for themselves, it being evident that with the amount of coal saved during the eight-day passage from Hongkong to Yokohama, the *Ocean* would be able to steam at speed of ten knots for at least a day and a half longer than any of her sister ships. Considering also that the price of coal at Yokohama is 56s. per ton, the Engine-Room Staff deserve much credit for this achievement.

TIENTSIN'S FOREIGN RULE.

[FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS.

Tientsin, 28th June.

Possibly as good illustrations of native temper toward foreigners may be found here as anywhere in China. A wish to control their own affairs is of course perfectly intelligible on the part of the Chinese; but if there is any place in the empire, hardly excepting Peking, in which doubt lingers as to the wisdom of restoring old conditions of government, or where expediency would seem to dictate to the native mind a policy of conciliation, this is the place; for here the mask was thrown off two years ago, and the outbreak was fiercest and most determined. As the seat of provincial power, superseding the appointed capital; as the chief commercial city of the North; and as the centre of anti-foreign fomentation, foreign hold here has been most tenacious. All the allies except the Americans have kept troops on this ground in such numbers as to preserve appearances not greatly unlike those in the months following close upon the bombardment, and the evacuation by the Chinese forces. Foreign control, indeed, covers visibly both native and settlement districts, differing thereby from the mere martial supremacy of the summer of 1900 in that it has turned the city into paths of progress and good order, and has bettered it not only in its physical aspect, but as a producer of revenue for the Imperial treasury. But the Chinese covet it, and make no secret of their displeasure at its continuance under foreign administration. The provisional government of the foreigners has proved too much for native liking. It has applied funds too largely to public account, giving to the authorities at Peking, whatever their present foreign sentiment, an object lesson unexampled in the productive capacity of the place for the general exchequer, and furnishing in that respect at least a pattern enlightening as to the past as well as to the future, and making private official gain at public cost more glaring than under any other circumstances it could have become. Viewed from the standpoint of revenue, of sanitation, of order, of commercial importance, Tientsin has never been so well governed. As a factor of native politics, as a rallying ground for racial conspiracy, and as a mine for the enrichment of favoured pockets, it has fallen out of the reckoning. Hence the modern Viceroy, Yuan Shikai, establishes the official yamen at Paoing-fu, from which he declines to emerge, and the satellites whom he keeps there, in obedience to direct orders, do little more than maintain lodgings, and barely conceal their impatience that the foreigners take so long to hand back the city to its rightful rulers. As the provisional government will probably go out of existence shortly, and the native portion of the city will revert to Chinese administration, a review will be instructive, to point out

generally what foreign rule has done, and wherein the administration of the last two years has differed essentially from that which the Chinese maintained. There is no need of assurance that the city to be handed back is vastly different from that which was taken over, untoward as have been the conditions for anything like the improvement of which the place is capable. If it were to remain in foreign hands for another two years, it is not too much to assume that it would pass out of the recognition of those who knew it in its Chinese days. Since foreigners, with their eyes open, can detect no difference between one Chinese city and another, it may be doubted if natives, looking at pictures or taken blindfold on a tour of inspection, could distinguish between them ordinarily; for a city consists of a wall enclosing low, dingy, nondescript houses, in narrow ill-smelling streets; and that description applies almost uniformly throughout every part of China which foreigners have seen. Its twelve miles of wall have come down and the most careless observer would now at Tientsin part from the rest. In place of the wall there is a road around the city, 60 feet wide. Even the natives, hard-pressed as they are for room, avoid contiguity to the wall, whose natural secretion of dampness and mould become in time augmented by the filth of a common dump. This too has been removed, and the air, free for the first time to sweep through the streets, reaches them without contamination. Where the return fire of the foreign guns destroyed houses, work of late has looked to an increase of air-space rather than to building-construction, and it has been possible in certain quarters to lay out streets anew, of respectable width. In a place where population is estimated at something more than 1,000,000, and which was always utterly heedless of sanitary law, it is not practicable to approximate the extent of disease. No one denies that in former years Tientsin maintained the native average in this respect. When the biting cold that comes early and goes late here drives the human kind into fætid hovels, cause and effect naturally work along non-resisting lines. But since the foreigners took charge, the streets have been kept reasonably clear of filth, and the continuous tonic of fresh air administered to them has so far dissipated disease germs, and while other native cities suffered last winter from scarlet fever, small-pox, and the other usual epidemics, there was no widespread sickness in Tientsin. Conditions here invited such afflictions more than in places undisturbed, for in spite of recent extraordinary demand for labour, the troubles of two years ago had acute result here, in the devastation of dwellings, in ruin of native enterprises, and in general privation and poverty. If disease was ever to gain foothold, and cause havoc among the multitude, this was the most auspicious time for it. Its failure to do so may be credited to the care and judgment of foreign governmental supervision. As elsewhere in the North, the break-up of haphazard bands, who had gone armed into the outbreak, the creation of a lawless element made homeless and hungry by the blight of the allies, and the wholesale desertions from the Imperial forces, threw upon this region thousands of men, determined that it should feed and clothe them, without return on their part. Over the thirty miles of stretch between Tientsin and the sea, solitary travel involved the certainty of robbery, and travel in any company was safe only under armed guard. The situation was infinitely worse, and with better cause, than it ever becomes around Canton, where piracy still flourishes, for here outlawry was not only the easiest way to get a livelihood, but to many it seemed doubtless the only way. How native authority might have dealt with such a situation may be judged from conditions in the northern part of this province, where the flower of Imperial soldiery, comprising some of the famous commands of Yuan Shikai, whom that warrior-statesman graciously restrained from attacking the foreign armies in 1900, lest they might annihilate them, and who are now led by one of the greatest of the native heroes, Gen. Ma Yu Kun, have proved powerless to suppress the robber bands that roam that district. The robbers go where they please, do as they like, and report says they have pooled their interests, so that at short

notice, 4,000 of them may be allied under an organised commune, to resist interference. Staff councils among the Chinese are as mysterious as those of state, but an agent of Yuan Shikai, just arrived from Pao-tung-fu, reports that when Ma joined his troops in this northern detail, he called his advisers together, and addressed them to this effect: "There are 4,000 robbers out on these plains. Since we have been sent here to capture or kill them, of course we must do it. If you overtake the robbers, and they show fight and prove too strong for you, I hope you may all make your way back safely. Since I am a little lame, I think I will start now. There may be a medal or something awaiting me at Peking." Whatever may be thought of the accuracy of this report, it is certain that Ma has spent more time at Peking since the return of the Court than in pursuit of robbers, and that for services rendered in guarding the flight or return of the Imperial party, or for honours yet to be won, he has been the recipient of various gaudy tokens. A foreign battalion would probably clear the country. That task looks hopeless with an entire division of the native troops. Here order has been brought about and travel with safety has become possible through the efforts of the police nearly all natives, under foreign direction. The stretch to the sea comes within the district of this provisional government. The police system has covered it no better than it has covered the city. But outlaws hereabouts have understood that business was meant, and that authorities were after them in earnest, and they have gone where they feel reasonably sure of immunity in their operations. Where foreign force remains the people are peaceful, although, except at centres of population, that force is nowhere large, in China proper.

THE T.P.G.'S WORK.

The government has been international in its administration. Its German, French, Japanese, Italian and Russian directors preside in turn at meetings of the supervisory council. Its Secretary is American, with French, German, Japanese and English undersecretaries. The police serve under a British Chief, a Major; a French Captain has charge of the Sanitary Department; the Treasurer is German; a Norwegian is Director of Public Works; an American presides over the chief court. The Chinese Secretary of the government is an American who was formerly President of Tientsin University. Members of the Council receive each \$1,000 Mexican per month, the chiefs of the departments each £800 per year. There are 600 foreign police who receive \$29.000 Mexican per month, and 1,157 Chinese police, who receive \$16.40 Mexican per month. Cost of the government, including maintenance of works, has been 50,000 taels per month. The government has collected about 2,000,000 taels per year out of which it has constructed 15 miles of street; it has built highways along the river front, besides turning the site of the city wall into a boulevard; it has constructed a fine drawbridge and small bridges; it has thrown into recreation grounds portions of the old city just within the old walls, where only dumps existed before, and it has suppressed beggary in public, a nuisance insufferable to all except natives in every Chinese city. It has given 250,000 taels towards the improvement of the river and 700,000 taels yearly to the Imperial Maritime Customs. In Chinese years the city gave nothing for either river-improvement or to the custom fund. The river scheme is a Protocol arrangement, which must be pushed to success if the city is to hold its place as leader in northern business. As the Chinese never spent a dollar toward saving the river, it is quite probable that they never would have done so of their own initiative. Skippers yet bring goods north who remember when they could steam up to the city and turn their ships in the stream. Nothing much larger than a gunboat can do that now. When cold weather breaks and the hills melt they send down dirt with the snow and ice, and that which does not clog the stream with bars in the interior, helps to fill the channel here and on the way to the sea. So the underwriters forbid ships drawing more than twelve feet to cross Taku Bar unlighted, and there, eleven miles off shore, they must await weather, which will enable cargo-boats to go out to them.

If there were a channel, a trip of 70 miles by water would bring the ships here. The rail connection at Tongku cuts distance to about 40 miles but it is made at great delay in time, and even if cargo-boats avoid the rails, and come up the river, the cost of transshipments and the damage re-handling, put on goods a tax that no other country would stand. Foreigners propose by this improvement to save a port for the Chinese. Nothing except this improvement can save it, for other aspirants for supremacy have already appeared and since Tientsin has no manufacturing industry, exports of wool, hides, camel wool and straw braid, which constitute the outputs into the markets of the world can quite as conveniently be shipped from a better place, unless special effort be made to retain this market. Other ports might also as conveniently become distributing points for the imports now dumped here. Chinese administration of this city never produced more than 250,000 taels for the Imperial treasury from the item known as native customs. It was an item quite distinct from the present contribution of 700,000 taels to the customs, from the provisional government, but since the same place furnished both funds, distinction may be ignored for the purpose of showing that from whatever source, the city gave the general government only the smaller sum at a time when it was under no expense for improvement as at present, and when collections were doubtless much larger. Chinese are arguing that the general government is a loser under the present administration, because Tientsin formerly contributed to the government a total of 2,500,000 taels. That sum consisted in 1899 of 1,000,000 from Imperial Customs, 250,000 taels from native customs and 1,000,000 taels from the salt tax. Last year, although business had not recovered, customs, including the city item, reached 1,500,000 and official estimates say that the amount this year will be at least 2,000,000 taels, exceeding by 750,000 taels the best Chinese collections, in times of normal business from port and city charges. There was no salt-income last year and there can be none for two or three years, whether Chinese or foreigners may be in control, because the allies confiscated the salt two years ago; and under the Chinese method of collecting salt by evaporation from the sea, the stacks of salt that yield revenue must stand two or three years, in order that the bitter taste from the sea may be seasoned out of them. There has been official computation on what the salt-tax should have yielded; had it been handled honestly; by which it appears that instead of 1,000,000 taels, it should have produced 2,500,000 taels. If the salt-tax were in operation under the provisional government, the revenue to Peking in the present year would thus approximate 4,500,000 taels, or £350,000 more than the Chinese here passed over in the best year that the port ever had. The juiciness of official plums in China has long been notorious, but the present conditions of government here make this the first instance of authoritative computation on the subject. With places as rich in pickings as this scattered over the empire, the tenacity with which the official class clings to its traditions, and wishes above all things to be let alone, may be appreciated. Considerations such as these do not argue here against the proposition that the Chinese are entitled to rule their own districts, regardless of the lessons now conveyed as to the need of official reform. There may be officials in the provisional government to whom \$1,000 Mexican per month, or £800 per year may not come as easily again as now, and who wish to hold on as earnestly as the Chinese wish to renew their old grip. One may hear also pretty talk of native resentment that the walls have been taken down, and of intention to reconstruct them as soon as the foreigners get out, so that the smells now rampant may again be penned up within the city. Nobody has intimated that the Chinese will be stopped if they wish to rebuild, but the river improvement must go on, and unless councils wholly selfish prevail there will be enough work of undoubted practical value to be done, in putting and keeping the city in commercial trim, to give natives occupation for some years, without working overtime for the sake of sentiment. Military order established the administration now in power. It

can be dismissed only by similar order, proceeding now to the district commanders from the home governments. Whenever it may occur, and not until then, will native officialdom be placated, and the progressive Viceroy, Yuan Shikai, make this city again the provincial capital.

FOOCHOW.

The following items are from the *Foochow Echo* of the 5th inst.:

The reaping of the first crop of rice commenced in the large plain between the city and Kushan this week, and the report of the crop is that it is a full yield of good quality.

Almost all the ladies and children of Foochow are now at Kuliang for the season: the few still remaining at home would doubtless have been there by this time but for the cool weather of the past week.

The reduction of the tea-duty coupled with the decline in sterling exchange appears to have acted as a stimulant to the trade, the export to Europe from this port amounting to 5,592,869 lbs. to date against 3,854,412 lbs. at the corresponding date last year.

A most successful concert was held in the Foochow Club on Friday the 27th ult. which showed that however small our port may be, it contains its fair proportion of talent. Although the programme was short, consisting only of eight numbers, the appreciation of the audience was so marked that almost every item was encored.

The rumours current here last week of troubles at Hing Wha were not without foundation. What occurred however was not at Hing Wha itself but at Sieng Ju, a city in the Hing Wha prefecture. The troubles arose through discontent about the increased taxation demanded by the mandarins, and at one time they were regarded as rather serious. But when in addition to this increased taxation a capitation tax of about twenty cash was levied on every individual passing out through the City gates the people could stand it no longer. The inhabitants of all the surrounding villages assembled and attacked the houses of the gentry, burning down some 60 or 70 of them. It is said that the people in their indignation scorned to take away any of the property or goods found in the houses, but, gathering it all together, made a heap of it and set fire to it, watching it till all was reduced to ashes. It does not appear that any of the yamens were attacked, but it is reported that the chief magistrate fled for his life. The reason of the people having attacked the houses of the gentry only, was because it was supposed that the taxes had been farmed by the gentry and that they were endeavouring to enrich themselves at the expense of the poor people. At first the rioters were bent on wrecking the churches and the mission houses in Sieng Ju City, but the majority of the people were opposed to their doing this, and so no harm was done beyond the fright occasioned to the ladies who happened to be on the spot or were working in the district. After the troubles were over a proclamation was issued warning the people against interfering with the missions or the missionaries. The district has now assumed its normal peaceable condition.

TAIYUANFU.

Taiyuanfu, 17th June.

VERY GRAVE NEWS

has reached this city of the disorders in the Kueihwach'eng district, outside the Great Wall. It seems that the Roman Catholic converts are very numerous, and as they have not yet received the sums allotted for compensation, are indemnifying themselves at the expense of their neighbours. There are no fewer than 600 law suits unsettled and they are increasing continually. To all attempts to pacify the Catholics, the answer is: "Where is our indemnity? It was promised two years ago and we have not got it yet; we are hungry and naked, and if our indemnity is not paid we must indemnify ourselves." To make the matter more serious the Roman Catholic priests complain that the amount agreed to for compensation is by no means adequate, that instead of Tls. 200,000, the sum which has been agreed to, a sum of a million taels is really necessary.

In consequence of this the French Minister has sent an urgent message to Governor Ts'ên representing the necessity of reopening the question, and to-morrow H.E. Sheng Taotai leaves for Peking to see what settlement can be made.

WHO IS TO BLAME?

It would be quite unfair without full and adequate knowledge of the whole case to blame either the Catholic priests or the Shansi officials, but while, without express evidence to the contrary, it may be assumed that both priests and officials are anxious to settle the question, the gravity of the situation can hardly be over-exaggerated. If the matter is not settled before long it is to be feared that there will be another general uprising against Christians and foreigners, such as the officials will be unable to quell, and in that case, in spite of the reported good reputation of the Protestant Christians, it is more than probable there would be an indiscriminate slaughter.

UNSATISFACTORY CONDITION OF SHANSI.

If it were not that Governor Ts'ên is a strong man and rules with a firm hand, life in Shansi would be impossible. As it is the province is full of discharged soldiers, natives of other provinces, who although sent out of Shansi, have found their way back again, and commit continual depredations against travellers. A few months ago, while an escort was always at our service, we were assured it was not necessary, but now we have been earnestly requested not to go anywhere out of Taiyuanfu without one.

THE DROUGHT

still continues, especially in the southern half of the province, and it is probable that in the autumn famine will be added to our other evils.

A FIRM GOVERNOR.

To-day two of the missionaries were on the street and noticed a small crowd. Some police, armed with rifles, were standing there and shouted to the people to stand back, which they did most respectfully. On their return the missionaries discovered the cause of the excitement. An execution had taken place outside the West Gate, and the head of the victim was lying on the ground, previous to being suspended in a cage. The unfortunate man was a servant in the telegraph office, and it was asserted that at the Dragon Festival, on the 5th day of the month, he had sought for presents from certain merchants who habitually used the telegraph. It is not credible that this was the only fault, but whatever the cause the man had been treated with great severity, and his execution had been so prompt and summary that his father, who happened to be on the street, did not know it had taken place, although he knew his son had been arrested. This illustrates the firmness of the Governor's rule, and it cannot be said to be unnecessary.

A PARTY OF SWEDISH MISSIONARIES

passed through here two days ago. They had been robbed, and one of the party wounded, near Hwaihu in Chihli. The escort which should have accompanied them had followed them and taken another road, so that they were defenceless. In the present state of Shansi it is better to suffer some delay than to start without an escort, and would it not be wiser to wait a little longer before ladies and children enter this province? This advice may be distasteful to some, but those who are sending ladies and children here are accepting a very grave responsibility, and it is mistaken kindness to conceal the dangers that undoubtedly exist.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

During their stay at Kobe, the officers and men of the *Talbot* made themselves particularly welcome to the community, and especially to the children, whom they succeeded in pleasing so well in the entertainment on the Recreation Ground. A purse containing £6 10s. was presented by the British ladies of Kobe to the sailors of H.M.S. *Talbot* to be compelled for in any port under conditions to be arranged by the Commander, it having been impossible owing to the short stay of the ship in Kobe to institute the races originally intended. Another presentation was made in the shape of a vase presented to the ship by the Coronation Committee. Altogether the *Talbot* will soon be known in the squadron as "Kobe's Pet," the *Kobe Chronicle* says.

NORTHERN NOTES.

The following items are from the *P. & T. Times* of the 28th June:—

Admiral Rogers had an audience with the Empress Dowager yesterday.

General O'Moore Creagh, V.C., as Commanding Officer, has intimated that he is authorised by the War Office to issue arms and ammunition to the proposed corps of Volunteer Scouts when it is formally organised.

We hear from outside sources that our French friends have taken over some of the elaborate fireworks specially imported from Hongkong for June 26th. The Tientsin residents will probably have the opportunity of seeing them on July 14th, the occasion of the French fête. We hear that four native experts came up from Canton to attend to the display.

With reference to the McAuliffe-Ryan 2) round boxing contest for a purse of \$2,000 in the Gordon Hall next Saturday night, the Committee are still short of the required number of guarantors necessary to put up the purse.

The exodus of ladies and children to Peitaiho continues, and we hear constantly of resolutions to rebuild. A goodly number of British ladies postponed their departure till the Coronation festivities were over. We know of several cases where change of plan has been adopted from the fear of being caught off Chefoo, Weihaiwei, and the Japanese parts by quarantine regulations.

We are informed that our German neighbours have official notification that the first instalment of their indemnity will be paid in July. It is stated that 40 per cent. of the whole will be paid, and that the recipients will have the option of taking a bank cheque in marks, payable at sight in Berlin, or of accepting the equivalent sum in local currency in China at the exchange of the day. We heartily congratulate our friends on this arrangement; although absolutely not all that it might be, it is relatively a great improvement on the British method of settlement.

Some of our readers who remember the beginning of the troubles in 1900 will recall that the first missionaries to suffer in this province were Messrs. Norman and Robinson of the Church of England Mission at the district town of Yungebing, some fifty miles from Tientsin. We have more than once inquired if the murderers or any one of them had been brought to justice, and until a short time ago we had no satisfactory answer. We are glad now to be able to state that the worst of the gang responsible for the cruel death to which Mr. Norman was subjected has at last met his reward: he suffered the death penalty a few days ago, on the second anniversary of Mr. Norman's death.

Our City correspondent writes—Chen P'i, the Governor of Peking, is posted to the Foreign Office.

We hear that one of Prince Kung's servants is dead of cholera: that is the first we have heard of the disease in Peking. On dit that the Empress has ordered an isolated hospital for infectious diseases in Peking.

In S. W. Chihli great efforts are now being made to capture Ching, the leader in the recent troubles. With his seizure the necessity for soldiers will disappear.

The crusade of the T. P. G. against the men with big pig-tails (they are usually made of false hair) on the score of health is causing some concern in the City—where the honest people would like to see them attacked on the score of "morals." The well known Tientsin rowdies (*hun hun*) affect this fashion of fat queues, and such a tail got to be the mark of a swashbuckler; recently they have been less evident.

The cholera scare has abated for the best of all reasons, viz. an actual decrease in the number of victims, and less virulence in the attacks, but we fear that the disturbance of the labour market ensuing on the sanitary regulations is as marked as ever. We also hear that the humbler classes of natives are under the false terrors of panic-stricken lies as to what may happen to them if they come under the foreign health administration.

We grieve to chronicle the death of Mr. Wm. Scott, the first officer of the China Navigation Company's s.s. *Min*. Mr. Scott died at sea on the voyage up

of cholera. It is not known how or where he contracted the disease.

We understand that the French authorities promptly closed the house in Rue du Chemin de Fer where the case occurred last week. The British Military authorities have taken the precaution of making all the villages in the neighbourhood of Tientsin out of bounds. The latest returns of the T.P.G. show a total number of nearly 700 cases with a mortality of about 85 per cent. The medical officers have noted an increasing number of light attacks in the cases latterly admitted to Hospital.

CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MOSES V. KNIGHT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."
Hongkong, 4th July.

SIR,—It is always difficult for the general public to gather, from the report in the papers of any proceedings in Court, what the real facts are and how the judgment may possibly affect them or their interests; the statement of the facts is so often mixed up with arguments on points of law, and discussions between the Counsel and the Bench, that the mind of the ordinary reader is thrown into confusion and either he does not understand the facts at all or he misunderstands them. As the above case is an important and far-reaching one, affecting all those who are interested in property in the Colony, the reasons stated above must be my apology for attempting, as succinctly and shortly as I can, to lay the facts before the public unencumbered by legal argument.

The greater part of MacGregor Street was built in 1897. The street consists of a row of Chinese houses looking, on the one side on to MacGregor Street, a private street; and on the other side, on to Albany Street, a public road 30 feet wide. Each floor of these houses consists of one room only extending practically from one street to the other but on the Albany Street side of each house there is a verandah, half of which forms the cook house for each floor. Certificates under the old Public Health Ordinance were granted for all these houses, on completion, that they complied with the provisions of the Ordinance. At the end of 1901 three more houses were built on to those already existing; save that one was a corner house, these three houses were of exactly the same dimension and design as all the old ones. The Sanitary Board granted this year their certificate that these new houses were in compliance with the new Public Health Ordinance.

Early in April this year the owners of one of the old houses were summoned because they had not provided an open space in the rear by opening up half the verandah up to the roof as required by the new Ordinance and because they had not a backyard of 50 square feet at the back, the only circumstance entitling them to be freed from the necessity of opening up the verandah. Curiously enough the certificate that the new houses complied with new Ordinance was not given till about a fortnight after the summons had been taken out in respect of one of the old houses on the grounds that it did not comply with the Ordinance. It was urged in reply that though they had no backyard of 50 square feet they had Albany Street behind them of far more than 50 square feet in area which more than answered the purposes of a backyard; that the Board had granted a certificate that the new houses, precisely similar in situation, complied with the Ordinance; that if, instead of being an old house, it had been a new house, and had had a private lane at the back of 6 feet wide it would come within the Ordinance, whereas this house had a public street behind it of 30 feet wide; that for the Sanitary Board to call on one man to alter a house so as to obtain for it more light and air when a certificate had been given that an exactly similar house had light and air enough was to rather reduce things to an absurdity, especially when the house to be altered had a 30 foot road behind it and the Ordinance provided, later on, that a new house

with a 6 foot lane behind it had plenty light and air; and finally that the object of the Ordinance being to provide light, air and ventilation an amply sufficient supply of those essentials was assured by the 30 feet wide road at the back, even if the house did not comply with the strict letter of the law and had not a backyard in the ordinary sense. Their Lordships decided, however, that these reasons were not sufficient and that the house must come within the letter of the Ordinance whether in fact it came, or more than came, within the spirit and intention or whether it did not; a point on which their Lordships gave no decision. The verandah has now to be altered to admit more light and air in order to suit the law, whereas, as has been stated, if the house were new instead of old and had a lane of 6 feet at the back instead of a road of 30 feet it would under the Ordinance have light and air enough.

In the course of the case His Lordship the Chief Justice referred to "greedy landlords." I cannot help thinking His Lordship must have, for the moment, overlooked the facts that the landlords have been an immense benefit to the Colony; that if it had not been for the landlords and their schemes of development the town of Victoria might, at this day, be still a collection of old and crowded houses as it once was; that we should have no Praya Extension; none of those lofty and handsome suites of new offices on it, which are gradually rendering the architecture of the Colony both pleasing and impressive; and that we should now, where rows on rows of houses stand, have nothing but vacant lots awaiting a purchaser and affording a striking comment on the energy and ambition of the inhabitants of the Colony. The landlords, in initiating and carrying out all these schemes of development, may, and no doubt did, have an eye to their own interests as well as to the interests of the public. And who can blame them? and if, while looking out for themselves they looked out for the public too, can they fairly be called "greedy"? Can we take the benefits they give us with one hand and smite them on the face with the other for benefiting themselves when giving them to us. Should we not rather accept the benefits, and they are undoubted, which accrue to us from their schemes of development and allow them ungrudgingly to reap for themselves whatever profit they can from them?—Yours, etc.,

JUSTICE.

TEBRAU PLANTING CO., LD.

The sixth ordinary general meeting of the Tebrau Planting Co., Ltd., was held on the 7th inst. in the Company's Offices, 38 and 40, Queen's Road Central. Mr. Hart Buck presided, and there were also present Messrs J. A. Jupp, A. P. Nobbs, J. S. Hagen, W. D. Sutton, Wong Mow Lam and J. L. Cotter (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days, I will with your consent pursue the usual course and take them as read. At the close of the last general meeting, you will no doubt remember we held a private meeting of shareholders to decide what was to be done, as the Company's funds were practically at an end, and money was needed to carry on. It was unanimously decided by those shareholders present that they would not subscribe further capital, and the General Managers were requested to write Mr. Larken to this effect, offering the property to the Singapore shareholders should they care to take it over. Fortunately, Mr. Larken was able to arrange a mortgage with a friend on the properties of \$10,000 at 6 per cent. for 5 years, which appears in the accounts. Mr. Larken hoped that this would prove sufficient to tide us over the present bad times and keep us going until the rubber trees came into bearing, from which source we anticipate a handsome return in the course of the next two years. As it is, the coffee crop was a disappointment, and the price being so low we did not get the assistance we anticipated from this quarter. Consequently, our funds have diminished very rapidly, and unless we see an improvement

in the price of coffee it will be a severe struggle to keep going till the rubber trees begin to bear. In view of the present difficulties, Mr. Larken has generously offered to draw only about \$50 a month in cash on account of his salary, leaving the balance at his credit. As you are aware, Mr. Larken already receives one-third of his salary in shares. Your General Managers have again foregone their fees. During the year, on Mr. Larken's advice, we sold Gambier plantations, which stood in your books at \$3,261, to Chinese for \$2,000, a good price in his opinion. Mr. Larken gives his views on this matter very fully in his report, which is printed in the accounts now before you, so it is unnecessary for me to refer to it further. I do not think I can usefully add anything to what I have already said. Our prospects are gone into very fully by Mr. Larken in his report, which you have no doubt read, but it may interest you to hear that we have lately received a letter from one of our principal shareholders, who, within the last few months, paid a visit to our plantations, and his letter can be seen by any shareholder who wishes to see it. His opinion is, and he speaks from experience of planting in the Straits, that if we are patient and can carry on until our rubber trees give results we shall make our undertaking a profitable one. If there is anything further I can explain in connection with the Report and Statement of Accounts I shall be pleased to do so.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. J. S. HAGEN seconded and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—The only other business is the appointment of auditor for the ensuing year. I beg to propose that Mr. W. Hutton Potts be re-appointed.

Mr. J. A. JUPP seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business of the meeting, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG ELECTRIC CO., LD.

The 13th ordinary yearly meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held at the offices, 4, Queen's Buildings, at 12.30 p.m. on the 8th inst. The Hon. C. S. Sharp (Chairman) presided, and the others present were the Hon. C. W. Dickson and Mr. G. H. Medhurst (Directors), Captain Clark, Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, T. H. Reid, C. G. Mackie, A. R. Ezekiel, J. W. C. Bonnar, B. J. Barlow, E. W. Terry, R. R. Robert, J. C. Peter, G. de Champeaux, A. O. Baptiste, A. G. Wood, Leung Shui Lun, and W. H. Wickham (Manager).

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, as the report and accounts have been in your hands for some time, and have no doubt been carefully studied, I propose with your concurrence that we take them as read. You will no doubt have observed that the Working Account is issued in a rather more condensed form this year, and this has been done as your Directors have thought it desirable for several reasons not to go so much into detail as hitherto in the published accounts, although we shall, of course, be glad to give further information to any shareholders who may desire same, if they will call at the Company's offices. I am pleased to say that notwithstanding some adverse conditions experienced in the course of the past year, the results of the year's working show continued progress. The use of the current for light and power has been extending, and we have also been reaping the benefit of some of the considerable outlays which have been incurred of recent years for the purpose of superseding our first plant by more powerful and up to date, and therefore cheaper producing machinery. I may say that the necessity for this is one we constantly keep most prominently before us, and it is for this purpose that we consider as absolutely necessary the considerable annual writing-off from Plant Account, for which we have been making annual provision for some years past. It may, perhaps, seem to some shareholders that the provision set apart for such depreciation is unduly heavy, but in regard to this I would

only refer to my remarks of the last two years as to the necessity for providing not only for ordinary wear and tear of machinery, but also for the plant becoming obsolete through the invention of newer and improved types, giving better output at lower cost. This is probably more noticeably the case with electrical machinery than with any other form of industrial plant, and the experience this Company has had since its commencement has fully borne out the necessity for and justified the wisdom of the course followed. The amount available for distribution as shown in the accounts is \$62,737.96, and I trust that the Board's recommendation for the proposed appropriation of this sum will meet with your approval. Before proposing the adoption of the report and passing of the accounts, I shall be happy to give shareholders any information they may wish to have regarding these.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN proposed that the report of the Directors and the statement of accounts as presented be adopted and passed.

Mr. REID—I have much pleasure in seconding, and I take the opportunity of congratulating the management on the successful progress the Company has made in the past.

The proposal was adopted unanimously.

The next item of business was the confirmation of the appointment of Mr. Medhurst to the Board of Directors in succession to Mr. J. Thurburn, and on the motion of Mr. WILCOX, seconded by Mr. BONNAR, the necessary confirmation was made.

Mr. TERRY then proposed that Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and the Hon. C. W. Dickson be re-elected Directors.

This motion was seconded by Mr. B. BLOW and carried unanimously.

The business of the meeting was brought to a close by the re-election as auditors of Messrs J. C. Peter and G. Stewart, on the motion of Mr. LEUNG SHUI LUN, second by Mr. WILCOX.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business, gentlemen; dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow (this) morning on application at the office. Thank you all for your attendance.

WATKINS, LD.

A special meeting of the shareholders in the above Company was held on the 7th inst. in the Office, 66, Queen's Road Central, for the purpose of confirming the resolution, passed at a meeting held on 21st ult., altering the Rules of Association so that an increase of \$3,000 was made to the remuneration of the General Managers. Mr. G. A. Watkins presided, and the others present were Messrs. Chan A Fook, E. J. Grist, T. H. Reid, A. R. Ezekiel, W. S. Joseph, and J. W. Osborne.

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN moved that the special resolution passed at last meeting be confirmed.

Mr. J. W. OSBORNE seconded, and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN thanked the shareholders for the generous way in which they had met the wishes of the General Managers, and expressed the hope that when they met again it would be to declare a handsome dividend. (Hear, hear.)

This was all the business.

THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LIMITED.

The following copy of correspondence which has passed between certain shareholders of the Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., and the directors of the company has been sent to us for publication:—

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE HONGKONG AND WHAMPOA DOCK CO., LD.,
Hongkong, 4th July 1902.

GENTLEMEN,—It having come to our knowledge that negotiations are now in progress between yourselves, on behalf of the Company, and the Government, with a view to acquiring a site for the proposed new dock, and that the Government is willing to grant the site but on certain conditions, we beg leave to respectfully submit that having regard to the vast outlay which will be necessary, and the momentous issues involved in order to carry out such

a scheme, before a final decision is come to and the Company definitely committed to a particular course, shareholders should be given an opportunity of discussing the project in its entirety.

We would add that even were the Government prepared to waive its conditions, which would make the terms acceptable to you, still the shareholders ought to have an opportunity of discussing the pros and cons before the purchase is decided upon.—We are, gentlemen, yours faithfully,

[Here follow signatures.]

Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.
Hongkong 7th July, 1902.

SIR,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of the communication, accompanying your letter of 4th instant, signed by yourself and other shareholders, addressed to the Board of Directors of this Company, which was read at to-day's Board Meeting; and, in reply, I am instructed to inform you that it has never been the intention of the Directors to commit the Company to extending the present dock accommodation without first submitting their proposals to shareholders.

I am further directed to inform you that negotiations are still pending with the Government for acquiring a site for the proposed new dock, but the Directors have, up to the present, failed in getting an offer of the property on such terms as would warrant their recommending its purchase.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,

for the Chief Manager,

GEORGE A. CALDWELL,
Acting Secretary.

H. M. S. ESMAIL, Esq.

REVIEW.

Siam in the Twentieth Century. By J. G. D. CAMPBELL. London, Edward Arnold.

It is needless to point out that books about Siam must have a special interest at the present time when the "Siamese Question" threatens constantly to occupy the attention of at least two European governments. When such a book is from the pen of a recent Educational Adviser to Siam, it obviously commands more respect than the writings of a mere book-maker and even of those of an ordinary traveller. Mr. Campbell, moreover, writes so sanely and dispassionately that he would claim a hearing for this alone. Siam is a country which has inspired visitors and students with very mixed feelings. If we took only the writings of Messrs. Henry Norman, A. R. Colquhoun, H. S. Hallett, H. Warrington Smyth, and J. G. D. Campbell, we should still find it difficult to arrive at a verdict on the people of this country. Recently there appeared in the *Straits Times* two ably written but eminently uncomplimentary articles on Siam by a gentleman who concealed his identity under the pseudonym of "Homo Malayensis." The writer in conclusion asked the question: Can the Siamese, whose civilisation has never really gone much beyond the primitive stage and who are already displaying alarming symptoms of decay and retrogression, ever hope to maintain their equilibrium in a struggle with some external force or power, with, say, France for instance? To this the answer is obviously meant to be, No. Yet Siam, he says, "slumbers peacefully along in the fancied security of her treaties. Poor Siam! The awakening will be a rude shock to her." He goes on to advocate frankly the absorption by Britain of Siamese Malaya, a favourite scheme in the Straits Settlements it would appear. With all deference to "Homo Malayensis," we consider this somewhat barefaced proposal to be an extremely unsatisfactory solution of the Siamese Question. The consequences would inevitably be the gradual extinction of Siam as a buffer-state and a long Anglo-French frontier in Indo-China, a most undesirable development, as every honest observer, British or French, must admit. But, argue many of Siam's critics, no other end is possible. Siam, being incapable of governing herself must be administered by some one else; the only question is, By whom? Mr. Campbell, though he is not a merciless censor of the Siamese, like various other authorities, holds out small hopes for the future of the country. In his last chapter he writes:—"It must be obvious that, in spite of the new lease of life she obtained in

1896, and of the comparative quiet of the last few years, the position of Siam is a precarious one. Dangers threaten her from without and from within, but her worst enemy is really herself.

I have tried to show in an earlier chapter what slender grounds of confidence there are, judging *a priori* from the Siamese character, that she can ever attain thorough efficiency while at the same time preserving her complete independence. Her people are lazy and frivolous, with the laziness and frivolity of many generations, nor are essential race characteristics changed in a day, even if they do not bear their stamp till the end of time. No other tropical nation in the East has maintained its independence, and are the Siamese to prove an exception to the rule?" Mr. Campbell goes on, a little later:—"I should be only too glad to think that I was thoroughly mistaken, and that the Siamese might, though slowly, develop for themselves an efficient government in which, as is the acknowledged ideal of most of them, they could ultimately dispense with all outside assistance. This would be the happiest solution for our own country of a very difficult problem, not to mention that it would cause much greater reason for confidence in the latent possibilities of Oriental nations generally. But though this solution is still not altogether beyond the bounds of hope, there are few, if any, who have a first hand acquaintance with Siam that really believe in it." This is not a favourable forecast, coming from so fair-minded a writer as the author is. Mr. Campbell's solution of the difficulty, if Siam finally proves incapable of self-government, is for her to give British officers a real control in the conduct of her affairs, and in return to ask for British protection against outside aggression. "Whether Great Britain would or would not accept such a rôle," he admits, "is another matter. She could only do so at the risk of giving offence to France, though nobody could maintain that her acceptance was an infringement of the treaty of 1896." Another solution which has been advanced recently, which is not discussed by Mr. Campbell, is the so-called "Orientalising of Siam," i.e., the introduction of Japanese advisers, etc. We quoted the other day from a Siamese paper some remarks on the spread of Japanese energy to Bangkok and the encouragement given to it by the Siamese Government as well as the hint that the places of European officers retiring from the Siamese Navy might possibly be filled not by other Europeans but by Japanese. The idea opens up wide possibilities, and we should have liked to see what Mr. Campbell would have had to say about it. Before we leave the subject of Siam's possible regeneration, we must mention Mr. Campbell's high tribute to the Crown Prince of Siam, now in Europe. In this prince he sees a chance of most far-reaching reforms in the sphere of government. "Uniting as he will in his own person both East and West—Eastern by birth and nature, Western by education and in not a few of his sympathies and ideas—it may be hoped that he will be able to combine the advantages of both civilisations; that, while profiting by the lessons he has learned in Europe, he will at the same time preserve much that is praiseworthy in the institutions and customs of his own country." With this sentence the author concludes his *Siam in the Twentieth Century*.

(To be continued.)

On the 5th inst. a Chinaman arrived at the Central Police Station and reported to the inspector on duty that a murder had been committed in a house at 104, Des Vœux Road; the place, he said, was used as a club by Chinese engineers and stokers. Detectives went to the house, which they found quite deserted save for the body of a dead man, which was lying on the floor with two knife-wounds in the chest; he had evidently been dead for some time. The corpse was removed to the mortuary and enquiries are now being made by the police. The man who reported the matter said he was told by an acquaintance in the street that he should go to the club in question and look after his relative, who was unwell. On going to the house he found his friend's body.

CORONATION CELEBRATION FUND.

The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks receipt of the following subscriptions:—

Already Acknowledged \$32,881.77

Commodore C. G. Robinson	50
Officers H.M.S. <i>Tamar</i>	30
J. Pitt, Chief Inspector of Machinery	5
Capt. and Officers H.M.S. <i>Humber</i>	14
Deputy Inspector General Drew and Officers R.N. Hospital	11
Capt. and Officers H.M.S. <i>Terrible</i>	50
Commander Dawes	5
C. L. McClear	2
J. Black	10
A. J. Woolley	2
S. P.	2
W. J. Anstey	5
H. E. Rook	5
W. R. Davies	3
G. R. Byles	3
T. Gray	3
E. R. King	3
H. Woodward	2
T. Andrew	2
Owen Ordish	10
A. R. Lewis	5
Geo. J. B. Sayer	5
J. C. Lowe	5
A. C. Voules	5
A. A. Williamson	5
B. B. Simmers	5
A. J. Allnutt	2
L. D. Philpot	2
J. W. L. Oliver	5
W. J. Gick	3
E. H. Codling	3
J. V. Bennett	3
Geo. H. Evans	2
E. T. Thwaites	2
R. Bruce	2.50
P. C. Dawson	2.50
A. King Chamarette	2.50
L. Remedios	3
A. Bull	2
J. Diving	2
A. S. Abbass	2
H. S. Coleman	2
Subscriptions under \$2	3.50

\$33,172.77

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL FOR JULY.

Entries were more numerous than usual, although very few cards were returned. The winner of the Cup holed his second round in 37 (5, 4, 4, 3, 4, 5, 3, 5, 4)—a fine performance considering the state of the course, which is at present far from satisfactory. The winner of the Pool is one of several improving players on whom the handicapping committee must keep a watchful eye. The following were the scores returned:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.

Mr. T. S. Forrest	78	+	2	=	80
Commr. Davison, R.N.	99	-	13	=	86
Mr. C. H. P. Hay	104	-	18	=	86
Lieut. G. S. Palmer	99	-	10	=	89
Dr. J. M. Atkinson	118	-	18	=	100

26 entries.

POOL.

Mr. C. H. P. Hay	96	-	8	=	78
Mr. T. S. Forrest	78	+	2	=	80
Commr. Davison, R.N.	99	-	13	=	86

23 entries.

The Quarterly Meeting will be held from Friday, 11th, to Monday, 14th July.

The Shanghai Golf Club defeated the Shanghai Cricket Club at their own game by 50 runs on the 28th ult. Mr. G. M. Billings for the losers, however, took 8 wickets for 41 runs, while Mr. O. V. Lanning took 4 S.C.C. wickets for 16.

On the 28th ult. the home crew won the Fours at the Kobe Regatta, Shanghai being second, and Yokohama third. It was a good race. For the Pairs Yokohama scratched. Kobe won the race, a stretcher in the Shanghai boat having been broken. Shanghai won the Double Sculls, the Single Sculls, the Singles Lawn Tennis, and the Bowls.

MOSQUITOES AND MALARIA.

The Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May C.M.G.) sends us for publication a long letter and enclosure received from the Crown Agents for the Colonies relating to the above subject, especially with reference to the suggestion made by Lord Onslow's Committee that "the Crown Agents be required to arrange that supply of suitable wire gauze and mosquito-netting is available, patterns of which should be easily accessible." Acting on that suggestion the Agents took steps to ascertain what was the most suitable quality of gauze, and, on the advice of Dr. P. Manson, F.R.S., they instructed Messrs. Shelford & Son, M.M.I.C.E., to conduct an experimental investigation on the subject of the durability and most suitable dimensions of the various kinds of wire gauzes. After experimenting, the engineers reported that the only gauzes likely to be suitable for damp tropical countries were:—Copper, at approx. price, 6d. per sq. foot; brass, 3d. to 4d.; nickel steel—Messrs. Stanier, according to weight, 8d. to 1/0d.; cop-bronze—Messrs. Burroughs, according to weight, 3d. to 4d. It appears that the selection of the most suitable materials lies between brass and cop-bronze, as copper and nickel steel at present prices are too expensive. The cop-bronze is manufactured by Messrs. Burroughs & Co., Portland, Maine, U.S.A., and is only obtainable in 14 or 18 mesh, and of these two sizes the experts recommend the 18 mesh. Messrs. Burroughs also supply complete door and window frames fitted with their gauze wire. The experts recommend that a quotation for the supply of 10,000 square feet of cop-bronze of 16 or 18 mesh, made with wire of 30 B.W.G., and 3 ft. wide be asked for, f.o.b. Liverpool, from Messrs. Burroughs & Co., Portland, Maine, U.S.A., and a similar quotation be obtained for brass wire gauze.

VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS IN ALASKA.

A Seattle (Wash.) telegram, dated June 2, says:—Passengers from Cook's Inlet who arrived by the *Chico* confirm previous rumours of another eruption of Redoubt volcano, which is situated on the west side, about forty miles northward of Iliamna. Among the passengers was C. A. Lossey of Tacoma, who has been in the employ of the Trans-Alaska Company, and who saw the present eruption. He sailed from Iliamna on the morning of the 8th of May, at which point only heavy smoke was to be seen in the direction of Redoubt, but which they knew meant that the volcano was in eruption again. Precipitous mountains shut off the view until the *Chico* was twenty miles or so up the inlet, when the show became quite thrilling. Dense black clouds covered the entire region, spreading entirely over Cook's Inlet, which at that point is upwards of forty miles across. At times the smoke directly over the volcano region was lighted to a dark grey, but no flames were seen during the day, and no ashes reached the ship; but when evening fell bright flames could be seen flashing up and lighting the whole sky in that direction. The ship's course out of the inlet left the volcano directly to the westward, at which point Lossey says there seemed a sheet of fire rising, which seemed at that distance but a few hundred feet in the air, but which was probably miles high.

A despatch from Skagway, under date of May 28th, says:—Accounts of a thrilling nature regarding the volcanic action of a supposedly harmless mountain in Alaska were brought to this city by J. C. McFarland this forenoon. Seven weeks ago a slight earthquake shock was felt in all parts of Alaska, and until today the phenomenon remained unexplained. McFarland, who is a geologist, happened to be within a few miles of Mount Blackburn. The story is best told in McFarland's language:—

"On April 11th, about 7.30 o'clock in the morning, I was just packing my cooking utensils up when the air about me suddenly became oppressed with a distinct and uncommon silence. In my wanderings through different woods I had become used to many strange freaks of nature, but this one appalled me. I was in a rough, mountainous country, I should judge about ten miles from the base of Mount Blackburn, in South-eastern Alaska, not far from the

starting-point of the glacier which, as it rears its face on the North Pacific Ocean, is called Muir glacier. Suddenly the earth beneath my feet shook, a low rumbling sound accompanying the quaking. I glanced up at Mount Blackburn. It seemed as if the peak had opened and the points burst out. A cloud of ashes and smoke shot into the air several hundred feet and there seemed to flow from the opening in the top a stream of dirty stuff, mixed with large and small boulders. This only continued for about ten minutes and then ceased as suddenly as it had begun. The air cleared, and then nature seemed again to wear her cheery smile. It was three days, after many perilous attempts, before I succeeded in reaching the base of the mountain. Then I discovered that the country for miles around had been affected. The small undergrowth of trees had been entirely covered up. The stuff which poured from the top of the mountain was not even warm, but seemed to consist purely of dust, rocks and earthy substances. I only stayed on the spot a couple of hours, and then left for the coast. As near as I can find out, the mountain had never been considered of a volcanic nature."

HONGKONG.

The visitors to the City Hall Library last week were 199 non-Chinese and 89 Chinese.

An outbreak of fire occurred at 17, Sai Wo Lane at 4.30 a.m. on the 6th inst. The Brigade under Mr. A. Mackie turned out, but one house was quite destroyed before the flames were extinguished. The premises are insured for \$5,000, which amount easily covers the damage.

The following returns of the average amount of bank-notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong during June, are certified by the managers of the respective banks:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	2,914,690	1,600,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	9,693,658	5,000,000
National Bank of China, Limited	443,947	150,000
Total	\$13,052,295	\$6,750,000

A Chinese stoker of the *Kiautschou* jumped overboard on the afternoon of the 8th inst. The alarm was given by a passenger, a buoy thrown over, and the ship, which was going full speed, swung round. Within fifteen minutes after the alarm was given the man was picked up still alive by one of the ship's boats. Great excitement naturally prevailed over the incident, and the captain and boat's crew were congratulated on their smart seamanship.

The thunderstorm which visited the Colony in the early hours of the 6th inst. was an extremely severe one, almost unprecedentedly so, at least within recent times. Torrential rains fell and frequent flashes of lightning, which was very vivid, made everything stand out distinctly for a great distance round. Many people were alarmed by the deafening thunder, which was very near and seemed to shake their houses. The roads were very much cut up by the rain in Hongkong and principally in Kowloon. An Indian soldier on guard at Pine Wood Battery, Peak district was struck by lightning and severely injured. The same thunderstorm also passed over Macao.

Two unknown climbing plants were discovered in Hongkong in 1899 and brought to the Gardens to be grown until they flowered in order to identify them. Flowers were produced in 1900 and last year. Botanists will be interested to hear that one was found to be *Ganavaltia obtusa*, D. C., and the other a species of *Illigera*, which is apparently the same as specimens in the herbarium which were collected on the Lofa Mountains in Kwangtung Province. These bring the total number of plants, exclusive of mosses, lichens, sea-weeds, and fungi, indigenous to Hongkong, up to 1,344 that is 38 more than Bentham gives as indigenous to the whole of the British Islands. Bentham in the *Flora Hongkongensis* published in 1861, described 1,053 plants as found here. About ten years later Dr. H. F. Hance in his supplement enumerated or described an additional 75 plants, and now Mr. Charles Ford has a further list of about 253 later discoveries, which make the total number 1,397 species.

During 1901 there were 41 grass-fires in Hongkong, leading to the destruction of 12,174 trees.

A *Government Gazette Extraordinary* on the 7th inst. notified that Amoy was declared an infected port.

By a *Government Gazette Extraordinary* issued on the 9th inst. Tientsin was declared an infected port.

Mr. C. McI. Messer has been appointed a member of the Governing Body of Queen's College during the absence of Mr. E. A. Irving.

Acting on behalf of the owners of the s.s. *Kate*, Messrs. Hughes & Hough on Friday disposed of the San Hop Cheung junk for \$11,000. The buyers were Chinese.

The British transport *Pentakota* arrived in the harbour on the 6th with the 4th Punjab Infantry from Tientsin. The *Uganda* arrived on the 5th with reliefs from Karachi.

We are informed that the following telegram has been received by Mr. H. N. Mody from Sir C. P. Chatter:—"Express to all good friends hearty thanks for congratulations.—Chatter."

Some shavings catching fire and going up in a blaze in a house at 12, Old Bailey on the 5th inst. were responsible for the turning out of the Fire Brigade under Mr. A. Mackie. The occupants, however, extinguished the outbreak before any damage resulted.

On Saturday night a sampan in the Harbour capsized suddenly near H.M.S. *Terrible*. Several others sampans passed by without offering the slightest assistance to the drowning people, but fortunately the boats of the *Terrible*, under the direction of Commander F. C. A. Ogilvy, were soon out and managed to save all the occupants of the capsized boat. The cruiser's search-lights were employed to aid in the rescue, a fact which was noticed by many who did not understand the cause of their use.

The body of a Swede in the employ of Messrs. Punchard & Lowther as a night watchman was found floating in the basin of the reclamation works near Murray Pier on the 6th inst. An Indian watchman saw the body and raised the alarm. Two employees dived in, but found that the man had been dead for some considerable time. It is not known how the unfortunate man came to be in the water. He had been seen alive as late as on the 4th inst., when he was apparently quite well. When the body was brought ashore, a large gash was discovered across the forehead, but this is supposed to be the result of a fall.

A detective-sergeant in the Hongkong Police was returning from Macao a day or two ago, and when the steamer had been half-an-hour on the trip a Portuguese constable, uniformed and wearing a sword, came up on deck from amongst the Chinese passengers' list. The circumstance struck the detective as peculiar, and he set a Chinese plain-clothes man to watch the Portuguese, who was seen to divest himself of sword and belt and throw them into the sea; then he took off his regulation boots and substituted a pair of white shoes. When the steamer reached British waters the detective asked the deserter—for such he undoubtedly was—what he meant by his conduct, but the man's astonishment and chagrin at discovery of his scheme were too great to permit of an explanation. He is now in prison here, and the Macao authorities have been communicated with.

A special meeting of Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy on Friday afternoon at 2.15 for the purpose of considering the following applications:—(1) From William Young for the transfer of his publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors at No. 1, Shauiwan Road, under the sign of the "Metropole Hotel," to B. Eally; (2) from Luiz Manoel Lobo for permission to remove his publican's business from No. 142, Queen's Road Central, to Nos. 148 and 150, Queen's Road Central, under the sign of the "Stag Hotel." Mr. F. A. Hazeland, Police Magistrate, presided, and the others present were the Hon. F. J. Badeley, Captain Superintendent of Police; Mr. J. H. Kemp, Acting Police Magistrate; Mr. A. H. Rennie, merchant; Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne, Chief Clerk, Magistracy; and Mr. R. H. Craig, Assistant Superintendent, Victoria Gaol. Mr. Young's application was granted unanimously, but that by Mr. Lobo was adjourned for a fortnight on account of some slight sanitary defects in the building to which he proposes to transfer his business.

Mr. J. F. Boulton has been appointed Acting Assistant Director of Public Works.

Professor Simpson, the sanitary expert, left by the *Kiautschou* for Kobe on the 10th inst.

Mr. Henry Keswick has been admitted a partner in the firm of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.

The insurrection in the Philippines being at an end, the process of emptying the military prisons is going on. Does this mean more beachcombers for Hongkong?

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donation to the funds of the Hospitals:—Hongkong Government, \$300.

Though there was no falling off in money realised by plant sales in the Botanical Gardens in 1901, there was a large decrease in the number of plants sold—from 2,451 to 2,345. This was due to the doubling of prices about the middle of the year, which made the plants too dear for the poorer section of the general public to buy.

On the 8th inst. the Kowloon Bowling Green Club final for the silver mounted bowls presented by Mr. T. H. Reid was played off, the contestants being Messrs. J. Henderson and T. Petrie. In the result, the former won by 21 shots to 13. As each of the finalists gets a pair of silver-mounted bowls, the credit of winning is the victor's only additional reward.

On the return journey of the *Terrible's* private liberty steam-launch from Murray Pier at 10 p.m. on the 3rd inst., a stoker named George West fell overboard while the boat was steaming between the *Tamar* and the *Terrible*. West had been previously cautioned by one of the chief petty officers who were passengers on board that his position on the gunwale was somewhat precarious, but, unfortunately, for himself, he persisted in remaining where he was sitting. The steam-launch was quickly stopped, but no trace of the man could be discovered; many of the passengers on the launch were waiting to plunge to his rescue should any definite object present itself to their eyes. The *Terrible* was hailed and the information shouted that a man was overboard, whereupon the ship's searchlights were brought into action with great promptitude, and the surface of the water was carefully searched. In the meantime nearly one-half of the ship's boats were manned and sent in various directions, the search being maintained over a large area of the harbour until midnight, when, every effort proving futile, the boats were recalled. We understand that West was not married and was 38 years of age; he had been fourteen years in the Navy. His end is particularly regrettable, as the *Terrible* is now under orders for England, and West had served with the Naval Brigade both in South Africa and in North China. The body was found on the 6th inst. near the cruiser, and was interred in Happy Valley at 5.30 p.m. with naval honours.

H.M.S.S. *Fearless* and *Sandpiper* are in dock at Kowloon.

The Portuguese gunboat *Diu* arrived from Macao on the 7th inst. There is a French river gunboat still at Macao.

The British transport *Uganda* left on the 7th inst. for Taku, carrying reliefs from Karachi; and the transport *Pentakota* left for Calcutta with the 4th Punjab Infantry from Tientsin on board.

The German gunboat *Luchs* arrived from Canton on Friday.

MISCELLANEOUS.

At the request of the Viceroy of Chihli, the Japanese Government has recommended Mr. Fuji, President of the Osaka Commercial Museum, for the post of adviser to the Engineering Bureau of Chihli.

The country in the north of Shantung and also in the south of Chihli is reported to be very dry for the want of spring rains; so much so that in many places the crops have not been put in at all, and if rain does not fall soon the outlook will be serious.

On the 27th ult., the day before H.M.S. *Pique* left Saseho for Weihaiwei, eighty scholars of the Saseho Female School, with their teachers, paid a visit to the warship and were entertained to tea. The girls were presented with hat-bands printed with the ship's name, which they tied round their heads, afterwards having their photographs taken.

It was hoped that not only Hongkong, but also Kobe should be able to send a cricket team to Shanghai this autumn. It appears, however, that not only Kobe but even Kobe and Yokohama combined cannot raise a team. Probably the fact that the Interport Cricket Match takes place in Kobe in the autumn is partly responsible for the inability of the local Club to send a team to Shanghai. Altogether, a Shanghai cricket week seems improbable this year, for even Hongkong is a very doubtful visitor.

According to a Northern vernacular paper certain English capitalists are reported to have been trying to obtain from the Central Government permission to construct a branch railway between Peking and Paoting, the provincial capital of Chihli, much to the satisfaction of Chinese merchants trading between the two points, who heard of the affair, and a large number of officials whose duties make them travel frequently between Peking, Tientsin, and Paoting. There is, however, a fear that obstruction may be placed in the way of the scheme, owing to the reported jealousy of the foreigners who have the construction of the Lu-Han Railway in hand.

Joseph Hale, a man who deserted from Company K of the Eighth Infantry, on 19th January, 1901, while stationed at Bay in Laguna, and who joined the insurgent forces under the name of Horry Horal Alman and issued pamphlets calling upon his former comrades to follow his example, escaped the night of 30th June from the Cuartel de Espana, where he had been confined since November, 1901, says the *Manila Times*. He was soon afterwards recaptured on board the s.s. *Loongsang* hiding under the bunk in the third engineer's cabin. Messrs. Smith, Bell & Co., agents of the Indo-China Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., have written to the above-mentioned journal denying on behalf of Captain Weigall the statement which had been made as to the complicity of the *Loongsang's* officers in Hale's attempted escape. Hale, it seems, had gone on board furnished with a letter of introduction to the third engineer.

The Administration Report on Pahang for 1901 notes a slight improvement in revenue, which stood at \$438,558 against a growing outlay amounting to \$696,842. The State is heavily in debt with a loan account standing at nearly three and a half millions of dollars, mostly advanced by the State of Selangor. The total value of the import and export seaborne trade slightly increased to \$3,619,505. Little has been done in planting beyond experimenting with tapioca and cocoanuts. Tin-mining gave encouraging results, the output being 22,339 piculs against 15,728 piculs in the previous year. In Bentong, tin prospects looked brighter than ever. The output of gold was 23,948 ounces against 17,048 ounces in 1900. The Raub Australian Gold Mining Company increased its outturn by 50 per cent. Four other companies began to export gold for the first time in 1901. The task of administering the Government of Pahang is hampered by low pay, long hours of work, high cost of living, and poor house accommodation. These check the flow of persons willing to join the Government Service.

The following comes from a Tientsin correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* who happened to visit Tongshan recently where are situated the well-known Kaiping mines:—A few years ago I happened to be in Tongshan on a visit of several days and I took the opportunity then to pay several visits to the coal-mines. The other day I had occasion to visit Tongshan for the second time and was astonished to see the vast improvements made at the mines and the large quantities of good coal taken out of them—nearly double to what it was before—that is to say, I found that the mines were now producing over 18,000 tons a week. There is no doubt from this that the employees of the newly-organised Company must be very energetic men, able to put their scientific knowledge and appliances to procure the best results. It is stated that so great have been the profits of the new Company that they will be able to pay as much dividend as one tael two mace to the pound sterling. Furthermore the new port of Chinwangtao, which is being connected by rail with Tongshan, will be of immense advantage to the Company, and the profits should be phenomenal to shareholders in the near future.

Lieut. C. Asser has been appointed to the *Glory for the Fame*, in command.

M. Dubail, First Secretary of the French Legation at Tokyo, will replace M. Beau as French Minister at Peking.

Señor B. J. de C. Logan, formerly Spanish Minister at Peking, has been appointed to represent Spain at Tangiers.

Rumour in Bangkok has it that the police are searching the city with a warrant for the arrest of Mme. Humbert, heroine of the celebrated Crawford-Humbert "inheritance" case.

H.E. Senhor Conselheiro Jose d'Azevedo Castello Branco, Portuguese Envoy Extraordinary to China, left Shanghai on the 1st inst., by the China Merchants' steamer *Yushun*, for Peking.

The British Minister at Bangkok, Mr. Reginald Tower, who has been suffering from typhoid fever, is making satisfactory progress, and by this time should have started for Europe, via Singapore, on leave.

Between the afternoon of the 28th and the morning of the 29th ult., five cases of plague were reported at Tokyo. A special conference of health-officials was called on the 29th ult. to consider the measures to be taken for stamping out the disease.

It is reported from Peking to the effect that the Emperor has commanded that the Double Dragon of the First Grade, First Division—a decoration bestowed upon Royalty alone—shall be bestowed upon Prince Cyril Vladimirovitch, who recently visited Peking.

H.M.S. *Endymion* left Singapore for home on the evening of the 28th ult. It was expected that she would remain at Singapore until the 30th, but a telegram was received from the Admiral at Weihaiwei on Saturday, and accordingly she left as soon as possible.

The new Portuguese club at 31, Szechuen Road, Shanghai, was formally opened on the 28th ult. by H.E. Senhor Conselheiro Castello Branco. On the 30th a grand ball was given in honour of the distinguished guest, about 180 people being present. The club is called the Club de Recreio.

The Paris *Temps* states that M. Delcassé obtained the telegraphed acceptance of the Governorship of Indo-China from M. Beau, who was away on a holiday. If he benefits by his change he will start for Indo-China by an early mail. He will go to Paris to receive the instructions of his Government.

A Simla despatch, dated June 23, says:—In consequence of the prevalence of dengue fever in the 33rd Burma Infantry, it has been decided for that regiment to stand fast at Rangoon, the 32nd Burma Infantry proceeding from Mandalay to China instead, while the 31st goes from China to Mandalay.

The *Straits Times* says that a very Siamese official (whatever that may be) now visiting Singapore states that all the trouble on the Siamese side of the Mekong is now at an end. That is so far as Siamese territory is concerned but within the so-called "neutral zone" there is and is always likely to be turmoil and unrest.

It is reported from Shingking that a Russian military officer with a surveyor and two soldiers came down from Siberia and examined the districts on both sides of the Sungari River, and made a topographic survey of the Shaloung Hill, near the capital of Kirin, for mining purposes. It is rumoured that there is something else in the air.

An Imperial Decree of the 3rd inst. says:—We have received a memorial from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stating that foreigners from the West are divided into two religions, namely, Roman Catholicism and Protestantism. The said Ministry speaks in the highest terms of recommendation of Dr. Timothy Richard who is at present the head of the Protestant Conference. We know Dr. Richard to be a man of great learning, high attainments, and strict sense of justice, qualities we deeply admire and commend. We therefore hereby command the said Ministry of Foreign Affairs to take the scheme the said Ministry has lately drawn up, with the object of making Christians and non-converts to live harmoniously with each other throughout the Empire, to Dr. Richard, and consult with him on the matter, with the sincere hope that, with the valuable assistance of that gentleman, the objects in view may be arrived at and the masses be able to live at peace with their neighbours the Christians.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* stated that the proposals regarding the powers of the French and International Mixed Courts having now been approved by the Diplomatic Corps at Peking, and the Taotai of Shanghai having agreed to the proposals, the matter has now been declared officially authorised and the Municipal Council at Shanghai would be notified of the fact on the 1st inst., but no details are yet to hand.

The Russian battleship *Sevastopol* arrived at Kobe on the 26th ult. from Nagasaki. She carried Prince Boris Vladimir. The Russian exchanged salutes with the Japanese *Mikasa*, British *Talbot*, and Austrian *Maria Theresia*. Lieut.-Colonel Aoki, of the General Army Staff Department, and Viscount Fukuse, of the Imperial Household, together with the Second Secretary of the Russian Legation at Tokyo, and Mr. Wassilieff, the Russian Vice-Consul at Kobe, visited the Prince on board the *Sevastopol*.

It is reported from Peking, the *N.C. Daily News* says, that cholera has entered the "Forbidden City," in consequence of which quite a number of eunuchs and female attendants in the palaces have recently succumbed to the dread disease. The members of the Imperial College of Physicians have, therefore, found their hands quite full lately, not only in prescribing for sufferers in the palaces, but also in preparing daily draughts of preventive medicines for their Majesties the Emperor, Empress, and Empress Dowager.

Friday, the 4th of July, was American Independence Day, and the occasion was marked by the decoration of the warships in the Harbour (which also flew the Stars and Stripes at their masts) and the display of bunting by the American business-houses in town. Many American citizens carried miniature emblems of the star-spangled banner in their button-holes, but one Yankee bluejacket, disdaining anything so insignificant, proclaimed his nationality by carrying a large flag round the town in a ricksha. A salute was fired at noon.

A Northern vernacular paper states that the Empress Dowager does not think the palaces in the Forbidden City, Peking, grand or spacious enough for the foreign lady guests from the Legations, and has, therefore, recently ordered the Board of Revenue to provide £15,200,000 for repairing Yuenmingyuen Palace, where she intends to hold her future receptions. Probably a short, luxuriously appointed railway will also be constructed for the conveyance of the Empress Dowager herself and her guests between Peking and the so-called Summer Palace.

The *Siam Observer* makes the following vigorous remarks:—The *Singapore Free Press* refers to the articles in which we have pointed out the folly of the "expansionist" policy agitated for at Singapore, and in which we have drawn attention to the consequences which would follow to British Far Eastern interests if the integrity of Siam be not maintained, or, still more, supposing Bangkok should ever become a French possession. The Singapore writer airily remarks that "for a wild chimerica this is hard to beat, and it is sincerely to be hoped that for her own peace of mind France will not dream such dreadful nightmares." This only confirms what has been on the face of it apparent—that the Singapore agitators don't really know what they are doing, and are simply incapable of appreciating the mischief they have made and are still making. They want to gratify their own ambitions in the Malay Peninsula and can't see an inch further before their noses.

COMMERCIAL.

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 11th July.—No arrivals.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 11th July.—The Prices are going upward, market being brisk. Quotations are:—
Shekloong, No. 1, White.....\$8.20 to \$8.25 pcl.
do. " 2, White..... 6.95 to 7.00 "
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ... 6.05 to 6.10 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.85 to 5.90 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 8.10 to 8.15 "
Swatow, No. 1, White..... 6.85 to 6.90 "
do. " 1, Brown ... 5.80 to 5.85 "
do. " 2, Brown ... 5.65 to 5.70 "
Foochow Sugar Candy12.10 to 12.15 "
Shekloong " 9.75 to 9.80 "

RICE.

HONGKONG, 11th July.—The prices are advancing, holders being firm. Quotations are:—
Saigon, Ordinary.....\$1.15 to 3.20
" Round, Good quality 4.05 to 4.10
" Long 4.15 to 4.20
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 3.45 to 3.50
" Garden, " No. 1 3.80 to 3.85
" White..... 4.30 to 4.35
" Fine Cargo 4.40 to 4.45

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, sailed on the 21st June. For Manchester:—87 bales waste silk. For London opt. Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—297 bales raw silk. For Milan:—10 bales raw silk. For Zurich:—2 bales raw silk. For St. Chamond:—38 bales raw silk. For London:—307 h/c tea from Foochow, 4 cases cigars from Manila, 66 boxes tea, 10 bales raw silk, 5 cases feathers, 10 cases bristles, 2 cases silks, 1 case cigars, 3 cases private effects. For London and/or Bremen and/or Hamburg:—119 h/c tea. For Marseilles:—280 bales raw silk, 3 cases feathers, 13 pkgs. human hair.

Per Imperial German Mail steamer *Hamburg*, sailed on the 27th June. For Suez:—100 cases tea. For Port Said:—1 case silverware. For Odessa:—450 boxes cassia lignea. For Trieste:—250 boxes cassia, 150 bales rattanshaving, 9 bales canes, 50 bales waste silk. For Fiume:—1 box cassia oil, 1 box staranised oil. For Genoa:—335 bales raw silk, 154 boxes cassia. For Antwerp:—200 bales bamboo scraps, 56 bales feathers, 56 bales rattancore, 10 bales canes, 2 boxes silks. For Antwerp/Rotterdam, Hamburg:—68 bales canes. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam/Hamburg:—500 boxes cassia. For Amsterdam:—12 cases Chinaware. For Amsterdam/Rotterdam:—250 boxes cassia lignea. For Rotterdam:—50 bales bamboo scraps. For London:—586 rolls matting. For Bremen:—8 bales feathers, 3 cases sundries, 2 boxes bambooware. For Hamburg:—750 boxes cassia, 254 half-chests tea, 9 boxes bristles, 22 cases blackwoodware, 20 bales rattanshaving, 15 bales canes, 11 cases Chinaware, 10 rolls matting, 6 boxes cassia lignea, 5 cases tea, 5 slabs tin, 3 bales broken cassia, 1 box feathers, 1 case silk.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 12th July.—Amongst the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*: 150 bales No. 6 at \$82 to \$84.50, 50 bales No. 8 at \$87.50, 1550 bales No. 10 at \$93 to \$100, 1600 bales No. 12 at \$96.50 to \$113.50, 550 bales No. 16 at \$108 to \$120, 1100 bales No. 20 at \$117 to \$129. *White Shirtings*: 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$4.90. *White Shirtings*: 750 pieces 0 at \$5.10.

METAL.—*Quicksilver*: 250 flasks at \$181 to arrive. *Half-Oval Iron*: 1000 bundles at \$6.40 to arrive. *Zinc Sheet*: 50 casks at \$19 to arrive.

per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....\$86.00 to \$128.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.....120.00 to 128.00
" 28 to 32.....136.00 to 142.00
" 38 to 42.....155.00 to 170.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

per piece.
Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. 2.20 to 2.25
7 lbs. 2.30 to 2.50
8.4 lbs. 3.10 to 3.75
9 to 10 lbs. 3.80 to 5.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. 2.55 to 2.90
58 to 60 " 3.20 to 3.40
64 to 66 " 4.50 to 5.30
Fine 5.35 to 7.80
Book-folds 4.50 to 7.00
Victoria Lawns—12 yards..... 0.75 to 1.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y 1.85 to 2.10
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.15 to 2.45
6lbs. (32 ") Mexs. 2.20 to 2.35
7lbs. (32 ") " 2.95 to 3.50
8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) 3.15 to 3.75
Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ to 14 lbs. 4.20 to 6.90

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 5 lbs 1.65 to 5.50

Brocades—Dyed — to —

DAMASKS—

per yard
Chintzes—Assorted 0.68 to 0.20
Velvets—Black, 22 in. 0.28 to 0.75
Velvetéens—18 in. 0.23 to 0.30
per dozen
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk 0.30 to 3.00

WOOLLENS—		per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops	0.05	to 2.00
German	1.25	to 3.00
Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.25	to 3.00
		per piece
Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.	6.50	to 8.50
Assorted	6.60	to 8.65
Camlets—Assorted	12.00	to 32.00
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches	12.00	to 16.00
Assorted	12.00	to 16.00
Orleans—Plain	8.00	to 9.50
		per pair
Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.00	to 9.00
METALS—		per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	4.57	to —
Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	4.55	to —
Swedish Bar	4.60	to —
Small Round Rod	5.00	to —
Hoop 1/2 to 1 1/2 in.	5.60	to —
Wire, 16/25	8.50	to —
Old Wire Rope	2.80	to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	8.25	to —
Australian	8.25	to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/20 oz.	42.00	to —
Vivian's 14/20 oz.	42.00	to —
Elliot's 14/20 oz.	42.00	to —
Composition Nails	61.00	to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00	to —
Tin	81	to —
		box. per
Tin Plates	.80	to —
		per cwt. case
Steel 1/2 to 1	6.50	to —
SUNDRIES—		per picul
Quicksilver	180.00	to —
		per box.
Window Glass	5.75	to —
		per 10-gal. case
Kerosene Oil	2.00	to —

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 11th July.—Business generally has continued very dull during the period under review, and the only feature which calls for special mention is a further decline in Indo-Chinas.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghais have been sold in small lots at \$607 1/2 and \$610, and there are further sellers at the latter rate. The London rate is unaltered at £63.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have sold and are wanted at \$385. China Traders are steady at \$56, at which shares are enquired for. North Chinas have firmed up, and are now quoted at Tls. 187 1/2. Yangtszes and Cantons are unchanged.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs are still obtainable at \$330. Chinas after sales at \$79 and \$80 are in demand at \$79 1/2.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been placed in moderate quantities at \$40, and more shares can be obtained. Indo-Chinas have sold at \$102, \$101 and \$100, and are now obtainable to some extent at \$98. China and Manilas are unchanged, and the same may be said of Douglasses, both of which are in the market at quotations. Star Ferries (old) continue on offer at \$20 1/2 and the new shares are reported sold at \$11.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars are procurable at the reduced rate of \$107. Luzons are unchanged.

MINING.—Raubs can be purchased at \$9, and the other stocks under this head at quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks are unchanged at \$225 sellers. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have sold at \$86, \$87 and \$88, and are enquired for at the latter rate. New Amoy Docks have improved to \$36 buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have sold at \$179 and \$180 and are on offer at the higher rate. Kowloon Lands and West Points are unchanged and without business. Hongkong Hotels have been in some request during the interval, and sales at \$135, \$135 1/2 and \$136 are reported. Humphreys Estates are quiet at \$11 1/2, at which rate sales have been effected.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkong Cottons have sold and can still be placed at \$17 1/2.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Island Cements have been booked at \$21 1/2, and more shares are on offer. Electrics (old) can be procured at \$13 1/2 and (new) at \$6 1/2, ex the dividend of 8 per cent. for the year ending 30th April paid on the 9th instant. Ropes are wanted at \$145, and United Asbestos (Founders) at \$175. China Providents can be procured at \$10.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	{ \$610, sellers L'don, £63.
Natl. Bank of China		
A. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
B. Shares	£8	\$27, buyers
Found. Shares	£1	\$10, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	\$1, buyers
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$21, buyers
China-Borneo Co., Ltd.	\$15	\$25, sellers
China Light & Power Co., Ltd.	\$20	\$15, sellers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$10.
China Sugar	\$100	\$107.
Cigar Companies—		
Alhambra Limited	\$500	\$500, nominal.
Philippine Tobacco Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$45.
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 43.
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 35, sellers
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 45, sellers
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 150.
Hongkong	\$100	\$17 1/2, sales & buyers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$12, buyers
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$46, buyers
Green Island Cement	\$10	\$21 1/2, sellers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$40.
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$210	\$140, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$13 1/2, ex div., buy
H. H. L. Tramways	\$5	\$6.35, ex div., buy
Hk. Steam Water boat Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$9 1/2, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$135 1/2.
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$24 1/2, sales
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$88.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$145, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$225, sellers
Insurance—		
Canton	\$50	\$162 1/2, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$70 1/2, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$57.
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$330, sellers
North China	\$25	Tls. 187 1/2.
Straits	\$20	nominal.
Union	\$50	\$385, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$130.
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$100	\$18 1/2, sellers
Humphreys Estate	\$10	\$11 1/2, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, sellers
West Point Building	\$50	\$55, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$20, sellers
Manila Invest. Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$20, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$550.
Jebeu	\$5	50, cents buyers
Queen's Mines, Ltd.	25c.	nominal.
Olivers Mines, A.	\$5	nominal.
Do. B.	\$4 1/2	nominal.
Punjom	\$10	\$4 1/2, sellers
Do. Preference	\$1	\$125, sellers
Raubs	18	\$9, sellers
New Amoy Dock	\$6 1/2	\$36, buyers
Oriente Hotel, Manila	\$50	\$45, sellers
Powell, Ltd.	\$10	\$8 1/2.
Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.	\$50	\$55.
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila	\$50	\$35, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$44, sellers
H., Canton and M.	\$15	\$40, sellers
Indo-China S. N.	\$10	\$98, sellers
Shell Transport and Trading Co.	\$1	\$2, sellers
Star Ferry	\$10	{ \$20 1/2, sellers \$11 1/2, sales
Tebrau Planting Co.	\$5	nominal.
United Asbestos	\$4	\$9.
Do.	\$10	\$175, buyers
Universal Trading Co., Ltd.	\$5	\$21, sellers
Watkins Ltd.	\$10	\$6 1/2, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$14 1/2, sellers

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Shanghai, 2nd July (from Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report). The business of the week has been small on account of the settlements for the end of the half-year and four Bank holidays intervening. The settlements were heavy, and did not go through as smoothly as usual, owing to one or two buyers failing to meet their engagements. SHIPPING—Indo-China S. N. Co. Shares were sold at Tls. 77 1/2 cash and for the end of July, and at 80 cash, all ex div., and 83 for 19th July

cum div. The China Mutual S. N. Co. having closed its business here, which has been transferred to Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, we remove the shares from our list. SUGARS.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed at Tls. 77. MINING.—Chinese Engineering and Mining Co. shares were sold at Tls. 10.00 to 9.50 cash. DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—S. C. Farnham, Boyd and Co. shares were placed at Tls. 260/258 1/2 cash, 265 for July, 262 1/2 for August and 265 for September. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were sold at Tls. 295. MISCELLANEOUS.—Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 48 1/2 for July. The transfer books will be closed on the 19th, after which no shares in the Old Co. will be registered. Certificates for shares in the Old Co. will be exchanged for shares in the New Co. on the 26th current. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares were placed at Tls. 270/275 and are wanted: sellers ask Tls. 280. Shanghai Mutual Telephone shares changed hands at Tls. 56, and are wanted. LOANS.—Shanghai Municipal Council 6 per cent. Debentures were sold at Tls. 103.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

SATURDAY, 12th July.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, on demand	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/8 1/2
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/8 1/2
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/9 1/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.18
Credits, 4 months' sight	2.22
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.77 1/2
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	42 1/2
Credits, 60 days' sight	43 1/2
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130 1/2
Bank, on demand	130 1/2
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	130 1/2
Bank, on demand	130 1/2
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	74
Private, 30 days' sight	75
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	18 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1/2 p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand	105 1/2
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand	1 1/2 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand	60 1/2
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	11.40
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	59.50
BAR SILVER per oz.	24 1/2

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR ANTWERP.—Benledi (str.), Telemachus (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.).
FOR LONDON.—Bengal (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.), Benledi (str.), Sarpendon (str.), Ulysses (str.), Telemachus (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Ernest Symons (str.), Kawachi Maru (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Sachsen (str.), Sambia (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Sambia (str.), Silesia (str.), C. Ferd Laeisz (str.), Wurzburg (str.), Konigsberg (str.), Andalusia (str.).
FOR TRIESTE.—Maria Valerie (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—Shinano Maru (str.), Tosa Maru (str.), Kaga Maru (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.), Athenian (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Braemar (str.), Indramayo (str.), Radnorshire (str.), Verona (str.), Benclench (str.), Comet (str.), Asama (str.).
FOR PORTLAND (OR.).—Indravelli (str.).
FOR AUSTRALIAN PORTS.—Yawata Maru (str.), Airlie (str.), Taiyuen (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—Arratoon Apcar (str.), Bisagno (str.).
FOR BOMBAY, VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—Hiroshima Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

ARRIVALS.

July—

4. Penarth, British str., from Wellington.
4. Trym, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
5. Uganda, British trspt., from Karachi.
5. Bisagno, Italian str., from Singapore.
5. Canton, British str., from Newchwang.
5. C. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
5. Emma Luyken, German str., from Saigon.
5. Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
5. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Anping.
5. Shinano Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
5. Taishan, British str., from Bangkok.
5. Tetartos, German str., from Sourabaya.
6. Chiyeun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
6. Chowfa, German str., from Bangkok.
6. Dagmar, German str., from Swatow.
6. Else, German str., from Canton.
6. Kiangsi, American str., from Canton.
6. Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
6. Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
6. Pentakota, British trspt., from Taku.
6. Pronto, Norwegian str., from Hoihow.
6. Taisang, British str., from Canton.
6. Ulysses, British str., from Liverpool.
7. Arratoon Apar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
7. Chihli, British str., from Chinkiang.
7. Din, Portuguese gunboat, from Macao.
7. Frithjof, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
7. Hoihao, French str., from Singapore.
7. Lucia, Austrian str., from Samarang.
7. Pronto, German str., from Manila.
7. Shansi, British str., from Saigon.
7. Tailee, German str., from Deli.
7. Thea, Norwegian str., from Haiphong.
7. Theodor Wille, German str., from Moji.
8. Luen Viaje, American str., from Manila.
8. Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
8. Empress of Japan, Brit. str., from V'c user.
8. Hoktein, German str., from Saigon.
8. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
8. Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.
8. Saphir, Norwegian str., from Chinkiang.
8. Thales, British str., from Swatow.
9. Borg, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
9. Daigi Maru, Japanese str., from Tamsui.
9. Hopsang, British str., from Moji.
9. Kiautschou, German str., from Hamburg.
9. Paoting, British str., from Manila.
9. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
9. Taiyuan, British str., from Australia.
9. Wingsang, British str., from Moji.
9. Dott, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.
9. Rosetta Maru, Japanese str., from Manila.
10. Ailsa Craig, British str., from Moji.
10. Banca, British str., from Singapore.
10. Hermann Menzell, German str., from Java.
10. Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
10. Laertes, British str., from Amoy.
10. P. C. C. Klao, German str., from Bangkok.
10. Rubi, British str., from Manila.
10. Shanghai, British str., from Foochow.
10. Shantung, German str., from Saigon.
10. Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
10. Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
11. Alcinous, British str., from Foochow.
11. Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.
11. Chowtai, German str., from Kohsichang.
11. Fausang, British str., from Canton.
11. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.
11. Hangwan I, British str., from Singapore.
11. Luchs, German gunboat, from Canton.
11. Miike Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
11. Murex, British str., from Balik Papan.
11. Pakhoi, British str., from Chefoo.
11. Perla, British str., from Manila.
11. Sado Maru, Japanese str., from Shanghai.
11. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.
11. Braemar, British str., from Shanghai.
12. Anping Maru, Jap. str., from Coast Ports.
12. Idomeneus, British str., from Shanghai.
12. Tydens, British str., from Liverpool.
12. Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
13. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
13. Maria Valerie, Austrian str., from Moji.

July—

DEPARTURES.

5. Bengloe, British str., for Nagasaki.
5. Feiching, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
5. Gloucester City, Brit. str., for Samarang.
5. Haliotis Dutch str., for Palembang.
5. Heathburn, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Kaohidate Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
5. Kong Beng, German str., for Bangkok.
5. Kumano Maru, Jap. str., for Melbourne.

5. Lennox, British str., for Shanghai.
5. Michael Jebben, Ger. str., for Haiphong.
5. Ness, British str., for Moji.
5. Parramatta, British str., for Europe.
5. Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.
5. Shimosa, British str., for Singapore.
5. Sophie Rickmers, Ger. str., for Bangkok.
5. Strassburg, German str., for Hamburg.
5. Sullberg, German str., for Canton.
5. Trym, Norwegian str., for Canton.
6. Amoy, German str., for Newchwang.
6. Daijin Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
6. Glonroy, British str., for Shanghai.
6. Saga, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
6. Seirstad, Norwegian str., for Bangkok.
6. Simongan, Dutch str., for Samarang.
6. Sleipner, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
6. Telemachus, British str., for Hoihow.
6. Belfast, British barque, for San Francisco.
6. Laertes, British str., for Shanghai.
6. Uganda, British transport, for Taku.
6. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
7. Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Canton.
7. Elsa, German str., for Hongay.
7. Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
7. Pentakota, British trspt., for Calcutta.
7. Ulysses, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
8. Canton, British str., for Canton.
8. Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., for Hoihow.
8. Chihli, British str., for Canton.
8. Dagmar, German str., for Hankow.
8. Elita Nossack, German str., for Swatow.
8. Haiching, British str., for Coast Ports.
8. Hans Menzell, German str., for Hongay.
8. Independent, German str., for Chefoo.
8. Kiangsi American str., for Kobe.
8. Loosok, German str., for Bangkok.
8. Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
8. Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
8. Sullberg, German str., for Chefoo.
8. Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
8. Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Haiphong.
9. Kweiyang, British str., for Swatow.
9. Saphir, Norwegian str., for Canton.
9. Thales, British str., for Swatow.
9. Thea, German str., for Haiphong.
10. Hoihao, French str., for Hoihow.
10. Hue, French str., for Kwangchauwan.
10. Keongwai, German str., for Bangkok.
10. Kiautschou, German str., for Shanghai.
10. Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
10. Prinz Heinrich, Ger. str., for Europe.
10. Pronto, German str., for Hoihow.
10. Taifu, German str., for Hoihow.
10. Terrible, British cruiser, for Weihaiwei.
11. Amara, British str., for Amoy.
11. Bisagno, Italian str., for Bombay.
11. Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
11. Onsang, British str., for Singapore.
11. Paoting, British str., for Hoihow.
11. Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Canton.
11. Shanghai, British str., for London.
11. Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
11. Woosung, British str., for Canton.
12. Alcinous, British str., for London.
12. America Maru, Jap. str., for S. Francisco.
12. Glenegle, British str., for Tacoma.
12. Murex, British str., for Japan.
12. Prosper, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
13. Chiyeun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
13. Chowfa, German str., for Bangkok.
13. Daigi Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
13. Namsang, British str., for Hongay.
13. Oceana, German str., for Caroline Island.
13. Rubi, British str., for Manila.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer, Messrs. W. C. Halp, A. L. Bindloss and F. Stewart Jones; from Victoria, Messrs. W. H. Hall and F. S. Kelly; from Yokohama, Mrs. R. Lynch, Mrs. Simpson and child, Rev. and Mrs. Riddell, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Ames, Mrs. Goode, Judge Tirrel, Messrs. Moreno, G. Mitchell, C. Kew, J. J. O'Neill, T. D. Venables, J. L. Fiske, C. Mauchet and W. Chapman; from Kobe, Mr. and Mrs. Ellis, Messrs. G. T. Kedai, A. Ishikawa, K. Furita and Wilkinson; from Shanghai, Misses L. Crawford and E. Stewart, Messrs. J. R. Becket, R. de Coto and Payne.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Baron and Baroness von Carnap, Mr. and Mrs. Rich, Mrs. and Miss A. Papier, Mr. P. Papier, Miss E. A. Wills, Dr. G. Polverini, Messrs. E. T. Martins, E. H. Melbye,

Deveria, F. H. Kirchhoff, O. Ritthausen, A. Lopez and R. Pilling. In transit—Mrs. M. McClean, Rev. and Mrs. Nichols, Mrs. Kobb and children, Messrs. E. C. Howard, J. G. Meyers, Pater G. Piccoli, E. Toepfer, A. Block, H. M. Grunberg and A. Hauff. Marine Stab Ingenieur Breitenstein, Major von der Heyde, Dr. Thiele, Hauptmann Schaffer, Oberleutnant Huhle, Leutnants von Collain, Stahle and Gerlich, Dr. Muller, Rentant Sellin and Marine Zahlmeister Linse.

Per *Kiautschou*, for Hongkong, from Hamburg, Mr. Hugo Jager; from Genoa, Mr. Max Herfeld; for Shanghai, from Antwerp, Mr. A. Baert; from Southampton, Messrs. M. J. Hamilton Smyth, T. C. Lowe, J. S. Mitchell, and Erland Sitiwonen; from Genoa, Mr. M. Speelman; from Naples, Mr. Carl Lindemann; for Kobe, from Genoa, Mr. H. M. Richardson; for Yokohama, from Hamburg, Messrs. Hans Saedler and Herm. Schroder; from Southampton, Mrs. Dunne and child; from Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. E. Levedag, Messrs. Frantesto Casati and Albert van den Kieboom; from Port Said, Messrs. Munekoto Suzuki and Kyosuke Uyeda.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Knox, Mr. and Mrs. Hill, Misses Lesser and Fanny McGhee, Major A. R. Paxton, U.S.A., Messrs. H. Locksmith, J. H. Perebera, A. Corcuera, C. W. Townsend and Wm. Reide.

Per *Rosetta Maru*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Mr. and Mrs. Woepe, Mrs. Hulom, Mr. and Mrs. Marples, Miss Cartwright, Colonel Howlett, Dr. Blouchard, Capt. Bellairs, Messrs. Pinquard, M. S. Beel, R. Wood, S. J. Bens, S. F. Curtis, G. R. Putnam, Filer, H. Thomson, Kuppeler, Hollman, A. Fenciano, P. Luciano, D. Matsui, T. D. M. Camerons, S. Uyeno, K. Ferada, H. Koyama, Wm. Smith, Shebasaki, and Jose Jesus.

Per *Perla*, from Manila, Mrs. Chapman and child, Mrs. Delether, Misses Feldman, Tirmann, G. Shundermann and W. Wells, Messrs. J. H. Tate, F. Kemp, C. Avoronoci, Van Vredenberg, Van Olissingen, G. Hermann, Kepner, S. D. Pool, H. Hernberg, Grunberg, Frost, Withon, Ortiz, E. Ortiz and J. Robinson.

Per *Sado Maru*, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, Messrs. C. Wittmuss, S. Matsukuma, T. Hoshino and T. Nakagawa, Mr. and Mrs. Arakawa; for Penang, Mr. Mecargar; for Marseilles, Comdr. O. Iro, Lieuts. S. Maruyama and J. Tsukudo; for London, Mrs. Rowen and child, Messrs. Chas. Mackillop and W. Lehrle, Lieut. Comdr. K. Kawahara, Lieut. Furukawa and Engineer K. Kimura.

DEPARTED.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Hongkong, for Townsville, Mr. John Burns; for Brisbane, Miss Burns, Rev. Frodsham, Messrs. Walker, H. Bell, Ellis and F. Smith; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. Ring, Mrs. Russell, Mrs. McKenzie and Mrs. Weisner, Miss McClement and Miss Tall, Sister Ursula, Dr. H. C. Patrick, Messrs. J. H. Beck, G. H. Spencer and A. Tisch; for Melbourne, Sir and Lady McEacharn, Miss McEacharn, Messrs. Mori, McEacharn, Knox, Reeves, T. O. Tollys, C. A. Bayar and A. J. H. Carhill.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. O. F. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Nason, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Gwynne, Dr. Lionel A. B. Street, Messrs. Thos. J. Tolmage, Jr., J. Zoder, J. L. Barrett, A. P. Symonds, Clemente Goch-nico, Santiago, L. Tartas and L. R. Hudgins.

Per *Kiautschou*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Dr. and Mrs. Legende, Mrs. T. R. Jones, Messrs. E. Carneiro, Luez M. Silva, S. S. Benjamin, S. Plants, C. Brandt, Janson, Wilson, F. Schmidt, F. Reiber, F. Bonnett, H. C. Joass, D. M. Graham, E. Kadvorie, J. L. Davis, T. H. Kirchhoff and Capt. Manro; for Nagasaki, Miss S. Willson, Messrs. R. Domenico, D. Pietro and C. D. Cousins; for Kobe, Prof. Simpson and Mr. J. J. Gomes; for Yokohama, Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Hardy, Messrs. H. and L. Stokers.

Per *Prinz Heinrich*, from Hongkong, for Singapore, Messrs. Otto Ritthausen and F. C. Hagedorn; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. V. Balbas, Masters Antonio and Iazaro Balbas, Mr. F. Lieb and Capt. H. Ahrens; for Gibraltar, Mr. J. W. Juiss; for Bremen, Mr. John Behrens.

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